OSWESTRY & BORDER

Thursday, December 19, 2013

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Valuables stolen in wave of car crime

CASH, mobile phones, laptops and CDs were stolen during a series of car breakins on the Powys/Shropshire border.

ins on the Powys/Shropshire border.

Dyfed-Powys Police said it is linking the thefts which happened in Four Crosses and Llansantffraid and appealed for witnesses to come forward.

Sergeant Jon Rees, of Welshpool Police, said: "Vehicles in the areas of Tre-flan and Winllan Road in Llansantffraid were targeted along with vehicles on Rowen Close and City Lane areas of Four Crosses. Items taken included CDs, cash, mobiles and laptops.

"The spate of crimes is once again leading to advice to the public not to leave their valuables on display but to lock them away out of sight in the boot.

"Thieves will be on the lookout for an easy target, especially at this time of year. Don't make it easy for them."

Anyone who noticed any these these with research was a first time of year. Don't make it easy for them."

them."
Anyone who noticed any-thing suspicious in these areas on December 7 and 8 is asked to call Welshpool Police on 0845 3302000.
Further crime prevention advice can be found at www. dyfed-powys.police.uk

Eight held over trouble

EIGHT Welshpool men have been arrested following inci-dents in the town over the weekend.

The men, aged between 17 and 27, were arrested and 17 and 27, were arrested and bailed without charge on suspicion of a variety of offences including affray, assault and possession of an offensive weapon.

A witness, who did not wish to be named, reported ugly scenes in Berriew Street on Saturday night involving a group of men.

Publication dates

THERE will be no Oswestry Chronicle next week, the next edition of the paper will be Thursday, January 2. We wish all our readers, adver-tisers and contributors a happy Christmas and a pros-perous new year.

CE B INK-DRIVERS

POLICE this week launched a blitz on drinkdrivers in the Welshpool area while a campaign against alcohol-influenced crime was announced for Oswestry.

And Powys County Council's Road Safety Unit weighed in by warning revellers in the Welshpool area not to even risk driving the day after drinking. With the party season in full swing, arrests have already been made and as Christmas

been made and as Christmas approaches police are step-ping up their campaign. "It won't just be those driving erratically that will be stopped by officers." said Inspector Mark Davies of Dyfed Powys Police. "We will also be carrying out routine ston checks ran-

out routine stop checks ran-domly. So if you think it's ok

domly. So if you think it's ok to just have one or two and not get caught trying to drive home, think again." The council's Road Safety Unit has also warned that alcohol can stay in the sys-tem for hours after the last drink – so don't risk it the morning after is the warn-ing.

ing.

Sarah Morris, Senior
Road Safety Officer, said: "It
is the morning after when
many people are still caught
out. It takes numerous
hours for alcohol to disappear from the body and
someone who was drinking
the previous evening could
easily still be over the legal
limit the next morning.

"Whilst it is almost imposing. Sarah

"Whilst it is almost impossible to calculate the amount of alcohol consumed, we do know that a 175ml glass of wine can stay in a person's system for nearly 2.5 hours. Similarly, a pint of premium strength lager or cider can stay in the system for nearly three hours."

West Mercia Police reminded people in the Oswestry area of the dangers of pre-loading before a night out during the festive season. "Whilst it is almost impos-

The warning comes as part of their Operation Christmas Presence which aims to prevent alcohol

by Graham **Breeze**

influenced disorder, violent crime and anti-social behav-

iour.

Chief Inspector Helena
Bennett, said: "We want to
reduce alcohol-related harm
over the festive period. Preloading, when people consume significant amounts of
alcohol before going out,
may well quickly push people beyond safe limits once
they are out enjoying themselves."

Dangerous

She said officers were issuing alcohol abuse advice at every opportunity in the run up to Christmas, including highlighting the heightened risk to those who pre-load.

pre-load.
"Drinking large quantities before going out to pubs and clubs is dangerous. You could end up in a police cell, in the emergency and accident unit at hospital, or you could get left at home through being too drunk to go out at all."

And the chief inspector

go out at all."

And the chief inspector warned of the dangers of drinking in rounds.
"Drinking in rounds may be a British tradition but they can be expensive, dangerous if it means keeping pace with the fastest drinker in your group and a nightmare if you're trying to cut mare if you're trying to cut down on alcohol.

down on alcohol.

"Stay in control by opting for smaller rounds with only a couple of friends within your group or giving rounds a miss." cessful year.

Pub regulars spread festive cheer



With toys collected for Hope House at The Plough, Weston Rhyn, are David McCarthy, Victoria Thomas, Lynsey Kilvert and Daniel Wotton.

REGULARS at a village pub have made sure there is added festive cheer for youngsters at the county's children's hospice this Christmas.

dren's hospice this Christmas.

The Plough Inn at Weston Rhyn has been running a toy appeal for 12 years, with all the donated items passed on to Hope House Children's Hospice at Morda, near Oswestry. Every year the initiative has got larger and larger—and this year those behind the scheme have said they have enjoyed a very successful year.

Pub landlord Dave McCarthy, who organises the appeal, said: "This year

has been another huge success and we have had lots of toys donated.

"It has been one of our best years and we are just so grateful to everybody who has donated.

"I have been here 15 Christmases and I am pretty sure this is the 12th time we have done it.

Support

"We always get great support from the community and we welcome the donations, big or small. "The idea came from one of the reg-ulars many years ago and it is some-thing that has just grown.

"Hope House was chosen because it is such a great cause and in Oswestry. "I hope to continue this appeal for many years to come.

"It is really humbling that at such a time of economic problems people are still thinking of others and donating items.

"It never ceases to amaze us how generous people are in giving what they can."

Lynsey Kilvert, spokeswoman for Hope House Children's Hospice, said: "The Plough has done this collection for over 10 years and it's fantastic."

Blow for workers as factory is locked

MORE than 25 factory workers are believed to have lost their jobs after the landlord of their factory reclaimed the unit. Staff at Rednal Pneumatics Ltd on Mile Oak Industrial Estate in Oswestry found themselves locked out when they arrived at work on Monday. on Monday.

A notice of forfeiture had

on Monday.

A notice of forfeiture had been placed on the gates and the locks had been changed, while vehicles were parked across the entrance to the car park preventing staff from getting in.

The notice of forfeiture indicated that the landlords had forfeited the lease on the site by peaceable reentry – taking over the building when it was empty. The notice is most often used with commercial tenants that have fallen into arrears on their rent.

Rednal Pneumatics, which makes pressure vessels for the aerospace and construction industries, went into administration in 2009 and was shut for two weeks before being bought in a manarement takeover.

weeks before being bought in a management takeover. Managers at the firm

Managers at the firm were unavailable for com-

Competition winners are announced

THE winners of the Oswestry Chamber of Com-merce Christmas window and market stall competitions have been named.

Chronicle readers voted

Chronicle readers voted for their favourite window and market stall after they were pictured in the paper. You voted Pickles & Co of Church Street as your number one Christmas window while the trophy for the best market stall will go to Llynclys Parm. clys Farm. Meanwhile, Kate Pinder

Meanwhile, Kate Pinder is the lucky winner of the Chronicle's Christmas trolley dash donated by Stans Superstore.

Kate, who lives at Llangadfan, near Welshpool, will now complete a trolley dash collecting goods up to £250.

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Christmas themed buffet gives a taste of sixth form



Zoe Entwistle. Henry Powell and Charlie Woolhouse at the buffet

by Graham Breeze

School in Oswestry were given a taste of sixth form life when they joined current Year 12 pupils in pleted sixth form facilities, which includes a spacious modern common room and state of e art study centre. Around 150 students attended the lunch. the Common Room for a Christ-

which proved to be a great opportunity for Year 11s to chat to current year 12s and find out more about life in the sixth form. With crackers pulled and hats on, the students enjoyed exploring the recently com-



Otto Smith and Archie Burton



Maddy McCrann-Smith and Alice Gillham



Alex George, Lewis Rowney and Ash Beardmore enjoy Christmas lunch at the Marches

Claire Buckle, head of sixth form, said, "This has been a wonderful opportunity for our Year 11 students to come and enjoy spending some time in the new sixth form centre. We have a number of activities planned for the new year, including subject rather to the few year, including subject taster days, to give students an experience of life in the sixth form.
"We look forward to welcoming all students interested in joining the sixth form to

these events, including external applicants, who have applied from neighbouring sec-ondary schools."

There will be an evening at the school on

Thursday, January 16 for students and parents who wish to look around the new facilities and ask questions.
Staff will be on hand to answer transport

and finance queries, help students to plete forms and answer any questions

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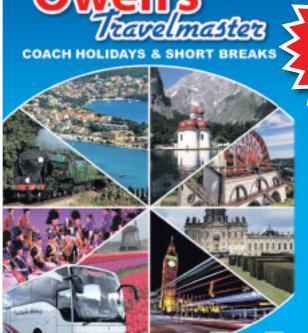


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national honour

A FARMING family from Llansantffraid has been named a national champion for the quality of its milk for

the second year running.

David, Alan and Neil
Pryce, of Coed Mawr Farm
at Llansantffraid, fended off
competition from 19 other

competition from 19 other farms to scoop the top acco-lade at the annual Muller Wiseman Milk Group Qual-ity Awards.

The three brothers, who are members of The Co-operative Dairy Group, were among 20 finalist farms nominated out of 1,200, which qualified for the awards.

They were judged on their

awards.

They were judged on their herd's annual milk quality which is a result of good animal health, excellent milking routines and meticulous hygiene, as well as their outstandingly low carbon footprint.

Coed Mawr, a 250-acre family-run farm with a herd of 90 cows, produced of 90 cows, produced 607,221 litres of milk last

607,221 litres of milk last year, which was sold to Muller Wiseman Dairies via The Co-operative contract. Thomas Webb, Agricultural Development Manager for The Co-operative Food, presented a hamper to the Pryce brothers, who also received a crystal trophy as part of their prize.

He said: "It shows their dedication to maintaining exemplary standards on their farm."

Coroner opens Harvey-Lee case

THE cause of death of a young boy who died after being found in a pond near Chirk has been confirmed as

drowning. Harvey-Lee two, was found in a neightwo, was found in a neigh-bour's pond in Froncysyllte on Monday. An inquest was opened and adjourned yes-terday in Wrexham by coro-ner John Gittins.

Farming Tributes paid to young DJ family's killed in traffic accident

TRIBUTES have been paid to a young Oswestry man who died last week in a cal

George Allsopp, from Park Hall, Oswestry, died when the van he was a passenger in collided with a lorry in Cambridgeshire on December 10.

Mr Allsopp had worked as an electrician for Barlows Electrical in Cheshire since joining first as an apprentice in 2009.

He was also very enthusiastic about music and had run discos since he was 13.

In June last year he turned his hobby into a business and set up his own mobile disco, Fusion Mobile Discos and Karaoke.

> George Allsopp "He was a very likeable student who made a lasting impression on us all during

his time here.

"We send our thoughts and best wishes to his family and friends at this sad

time."

Mr Allsopp's funeral will
be held on Monday at
Shrewsbury Crematorium,
with donations being collected for Midland Air
Ambulance – a charity he
had raised funds for in the

past.
A spokesman for Cambridgeshire Police said the

enquiry into the crash was

ongoing.
"It is likely to take some

It is likely to take some time to investigate this fatal-ity fully," he said. "We do not know when we will finish, or when an inquest into Mr Allsopp's death will be held."

Karaoke.

Members of the Mobile
Disco Network paid tribute
to his enthusiasm and set up
a collection in his memory.
Robert Griffiths, from
Mobile Disco Network, said:
"George had been a member for some time and was also a

for some time and was also a regular contributor to our Facebook group.

"A lively funny lad just starting out as a DJ, he was just 20 years old which makes his loss particularly sad for those he's left behind

"We are thinking of George's family and friends at this time, and with this in mind we have started a collection which will be passed to his family when closed.

Thoughts

Thoughts

"This young member of our industry will be sadly

our industry win be sadiy missed."

The former Rhyn Park Secondary School pupil had also studied horticulture at Walford and North Shropshire College while he was at Rhyn Park, and been a pupil of The Meadows Primary School in Oswestry.

Nigel Keates, principal of St Martins School, which was formerly Rhyn Park School, said his thoughts were with Mr Allsopp's family and friends.

ily and friends.

He said: "Staff and students were saddened to hear of George's death.

Pupils don their festive jumpers



Pupils Declan Hopgood, Harvey Logsdail, Freddie Burrage, Dixie Clarke and Elen Owen from The Meadows Primary School, Oswestry, with their Christmas jumpers.

PUPILS at an Oswestry school turned

PUPILS at an Oswestry school turned up in their best Christmas jumpers to support the Chronicle's "Keeping Oswestry Alive" campaign.
Meadows Primary School children raised £200 when they wore their festive jumpers in school last Thursday with each pupil donating cash to help site life saving defibrillators across the town

town.

The appeal was chosen as the school's Christmas charity after a pupil raised £305 earlier this year.

Ethan Lee-Birch, a pupil in Year 6, raised more for the fund by completing a sponsored swim.In association with

the British Heart Foundation and the

the British Heart Foundation and the West Midland Ambulance Service the newspaper is appealing for help to sup-port the campaign.

"The target is to set up a network of life-saving defibrillators in Oswestry," said Oswestry & Border Chronicle associate editor Graham Breeze.
"It's great news that the school has

associate editor Graham Breeze.

"It's great news that the school has chosen to support our appeal and fantastic to see the youngsters contributing in this way."

Town councillors have already given

their backing to the life-saving cam-paign by agreeing to have a defibrilla-tor placed on the outside of Oswestry's

Powis Hall market. Town councillors

Powis Hall market. Town councillors also agreed to contribute £500.

The defibrillator will be one of a network at key locations in Oswestry.
Other locations including the Shropshire Star office in Salop Road, at the Principality Building Society in Leg Street, the British Heart Foundation shop at The Cross, the Wynnstay Hotel in Church Street and the Senior Citizen's Club in Loyne Street. zen's Club in Lorne Street. Donations can be made at The Prin-

cipality Building Society (account: 144649-05) or the Chronicle and Shropshire Star office at 14 Salop Road, Oswestry.

01691 668094 dealing

fyllin has been given a sus pended jail sentence.

Wainwright

Liam Wainwright was found with £670 worth of cannabis – a class B drug – while driving through Llanfyllin, Welshpool Magistrates Court heard.

Wainwright, 32, of Maes y Dre, Llanfyllin, admitted possessing 60.9g of cannabis with intent to supply and a separate charge of possessing 25.1g of the drug at the court.

ing 25.1g of the drug at the court.

Magistrates handed the father-of-two a 20-week jail sentence, suspended for 12 months. He was also ordered to do 150 hours unpaid work to pay £85 costs and a £80 victim surcharge.

The drugs, various paraphernalia found at his home and his mobile phone, which he had used to complete deals, were also ordered to be destroyed.

Mr David Peate, chairman of the bench, said: "How would your children feel to know their father is a drug dealer? How would you feel if in future your young children were sold drugs by someone like you?

"We take a very dim view of drug dealing in Powys and you are lucky not to be facing immediate custody."

Mrs Helen Tench, prosecuting, said police were on duty in Llanfyllin on Febru-

cuting, said police were on duty in Llanfyllin on February 16 when they spotted the defendant in his car with

the defendant in his car with drugs on the front seat. Mrs Tench said Wain-wright was interviewed and he made full and frank admissions that he was sup-plying the drugs to known acquaintances. She said the street value of cannabis was £670.

£670.

Mrs Emily Smith, for Wainwright, said her client had since stopped using cannabis and was making a real effort to turn his life around.

She said: "He is holding down a job and supporting a wife and his children."

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Merry Christmas to our readers, advertisers and delivery teams

We are taking a **Christmas** Break next week, but back on <mark>Thursday</mark> **2nd January**



Students design a new sandwich for Subway

ton Hall School is about to go on sale across the region.

Youngsters Siân Jones, Kate Pumphrey and Laura Mer-cer won a competition to design and market a new sandwich to be sold in branches of fast food giant Subway. The winning team's sub, Jack of All Flavours, will be brought to life in the New Year when Subway shops across

brought to life in the New Yea central England put them on sale. It has four varia-tions: Ace of Spades – meat-balls, peppered cheese and chilli on Italian bread; Queen of Hearts – turkey, lettuce, tomato and honey mustard on Italian bread; Diagnonds are Ecrewer; lettuce, tomato and honey mustard on Italian bread; Diamonds are Forever – Tuna and Monterey cheese toasted on Italian bread and Mega Club – Chicken, bacon, lettuce and tomato on Italian bread.

Laura said: "It has been a fabulous experience. We have thoroughly enjoyed every step of the process and can't wait to see our products in the Subway stores in the new year."

More than 40 teams from across the region entered the competition, with six chosen to go forward to a Dragon's Den-style final.

The finalists had to make presentations to a judging panel at Birmingham City University, after which the Moreton Hall School team was declared the winner.

As well as seeing their design go on sale, the pupils

by Pam Kingsley

were also presented with £1,000 of Amazon vouchers. £1,000 of Amazon vouchers.
Subway entrepreneur
Gurpal Showker, who
chaired the judging panel,
said: "Selecting our overall
winner was a tough decision,
but the team from Moreton
Hall School demonstrated a
detailed understanding of
the brief, as well as a creative approach to their business plan."
Karen Booth, business

ness plan."

Karen Booth, business studies teacher at Moreton Hall, said: "The students really enjoyed getting to grips with the competition.
"It gave them a fantastic opportunity to put their business skills to the test.
"Winning is a great achievement and excellent reward for all of the hard work the team put in.

reward for all of the hard work the team put in.

"The students and their peers are really looking for-ward to seeing their sub and marketing materials in Sub-way stores."



With the sandwich are, from left, Kate Pumphrey, 18, Laura Mercer and Sian Jones, both 17.

sustained

01691 668094

A MAN who needed hospital treatment after it was believed he was hit in the head in an Oswestry night-club sustained his injuries in a fall, police have said. Police had been investi

Police had been investigating an alleged assault after the 21-year-old man suffered a 6cm cut to the back of his head during the early hours of November 24. He was taken to hospital where the cut was stapled. Initially it had been thought that he had been hit on the back of the head by a beer glass being thrown.

But after reviewing CCTV footage from the bar of Gibson's nightclub in New Street, investigating officer Constable Scott Harrower said it was clear the man said it was clear the man sustained the injury from falling over and hitting his

head.

He said: "I'm pleased to say this incident was not an assault. No offences were committed and the matter is now closed."

Sale of chapel

AN empty former Methodist chapel has sold for £42,000 at auction – far more than its guide price.

Deytheur Methodist

Chapel, near Llansantffraid closed earlier this year and was marketed as a potential home conversion with a guide price of £15,000.

Christmas at Whittington Castle

Sunday 15th & 22nd December 10-4pm Gift and Craft Stalls selling seasonal gifts

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Pre-booking is essential as places will be limited.

1-4pm. Visit Santa in his Castle Grotto. Cost is £3.50 each.

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Road safety signs could be installed before Christmas

a school before Christmas, campaigners have been told.

The Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS), which warn drivers to slow down, will be introduced on St Martins Road in Gobowen, near Oswestry.

And a meeting of Selattyn and Gobowen Parish Council was also told work was continuing on proposals to have a pedestrian crossing put on the road.

Residents have been battling for more than a year for for the crossing on the road near Gobowen Primary School. Last month 11-year-old Oliver Lloyd suffered serious injuries after being in collision with a car at the spot where the campagners say the crossing should be built.

Councillor Claire Wild, Shropshire Councillor Claire Wild, Shropshire Councillor Claire member for highways, attended

Carol service will move to town centre

AN Oswestry church is moving its annual carol service this year to a town centre location to welcome people who would not normally attend church.

Hope Church (formerly Carreg Llwyd Church) in Laburnum Drive will be holding a free carol concert with Porthywaen Silver Band in the Memorial Hall on Sunday at 6.30pm.

6.3Upm.

Minister Derek Hughes said: "The Memorial Hall is a neutral place in the centre of town so that all can feel welcome to come along whether they usually go to church or not. We want to give everyone the opportunity to celebrate Christmas and enjoy some carols and we are looking forward to a fantastic service.

"There is no entry for and there will be

"There is no entry fee and there will be free refreshments afterwards."

Santa's boost for hospice



Darrell Kerr, Lynsey Kilvert, Andrea Bowen and Steve Dovaston.

FATHER Christmas delivered an early present for Hope House Children's Hospice by raising more than £600 through a Christmas grotto in Oswestry.

The grotto was set up at the Cambrian Emporium, Gobowen Road, and visitors were invited to visit Santa and browse stalls

should be built.

Councillor Claire Wild, Shropshire Council's cabinet member for highways, attended a site meeting on the road to see the problem for herself and to meet residents.

Several of the campaigners attended the latest meeting of the parish council on Wednesday last week for an update.

Shropshire Councillor David Lloyd said progress was being made on the crossing as well as the introduction of the Vehicle Activated Signs.

He said: "The crossing has passed the first hurdle in that it has been assessed for engineering and for need.

"The application now goes into the budget process and we hope to have an announcement before too long. I am confident we will get a crossing but everything has to go through the council process.

"Meanwhile the highways department have been following up the visit by Claire Wild to Gobowen and are making every effort to bring VAS to the road, hopefully before Christmas.

"One sign will be installed at the junction of Perry Road and another will be up near the library. These signs will have the effect of slowing traffic down.

"I was pleased to see the campaigners at the parish council meeting. This demonstrates the concern of the public." at a festive fair.
The Christmas Charity Day included a Santa's grotto, a magician entertaining visitors, free mulled wine and mince pies, and a charity raffle with prizes having been donated by local businesses and people.

And by the end of the event, £641.70 had been raised for the charity. Darrell Kerr, owner of the Cambrian Emporium, said: "It was a very good day. We had more than 400 people come in I would say during the day. "It was the first time we've done anything for charity, but we've had open days in the past with free glasses of wine and so on. "Without a doubt it's something we will do again."

do again."

Mr Kerr said staff had chosen Hope House as the charity they wanted to support because it was a local good cause.

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WHETHER it's in business,

WHETHER it's in business, sport or simply family life in general the one thing that winds me up more than anything is people not pulling their weight. As you read this I am sure you will all be able to relate to someone in your life who falls neatly into that category.

Someone not prepared to be part of the team, someone whose personal agenda doesn't involve being there for colleagues, team members or relatives.

When we look around it's easy to identify them but it's hard to understand what makes some people so selfish.

Whatever the reason there is no place in my life for people who don't realise there isn't a letter "I" in the word "team" - even if it is supposed to be the season of goodwill to all men.

Luckily there are very few such people. The majority are

Luckily there are very few such people. The majority are more than prepared to put themselves out or go the extra mile and I thank them for all their support and understanding throughout 2013.

To those wishing to think only of themselves the message is

of themselves the message is clear - "go and do it somewhere else in 2014".

THE people of Pant campaigned long and hard for a pelican crossing in their village so now that they have one, why don't they use it properly?

There is no question that this dangerous stretch of road needed a crossing but now that it's in place why are people still risking life and limb to cross just yards away?

life and limb to cross just yards away?

And why aren't they using the crossing properly?
Only this week a pedestrian stepped across in front of me when the crossing was clearly on "red" giving traffic the right of way. He lived to tell the tale though the next time he may not be so lucky. People just never fail to amaze me on our roads, whether driving or walking.

ON A lighter note an incident this week involving a wheelchairbound friend really made me laugh.

laugh.
Colin Williams is well known laugh.
Colin Williams is well known in Welshpool for his wicked sense of humour and wheelchair antics, which have included toppling out onto the road and falling asleep while travelling by train and missing his stop.
But his most recent and highly amusing adventure wasn't his fault. After ordering a taxi poor Colin found himself trapped when the wheelchair hoist jammed, leaving him stranded for 20 minutes.
Colin would have been the first to tease anyone else trapped in such a predicament so I wasn't going to miss this opportunity.

AND finally may I wish a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year to all Chronicle readers. We're taking a break next week but will be back through your letterbox on January 2.

back through your letterbox on January 2.





The swimming pool at William Brookes School in Much Wenlock is one of the newest in the county – but does not meet the latest competition standards.

ympic legacy fa



CHART TOPPERS RAY SPILLER

Over 50 years ago The Music Charts started and this column looks back at the charts on December 14, 2013, three, 13, 23, 33 and 43 years ago THREE YEARS AGO... 2010

> For two weeks the X Factor finalists were number charts with

Heroes. The successful television series started in 2004 and some of the acts that finished in second or even third place have done as well as (if not better) then the

THIRTEEN YEARS AGO... 2000

The official Children In Need single for 2000 came from S Club 7 Never Had A Dream Come True might have only had a week at

number one but the song raised

£200,000 for the appeal

TWENTY THREE YEARS AGO ...1990

US rapper Robert Van Winkle trades under the name of Vanilla Ice and in 1990



his first single Ice Ice Baby held the top spot in the UK charts for four weeks. He also

became the first rapper to top the

THIRTY THREE YEARS AGO...1980

Abba topped the UK charts on

group had their final chart-topper this week in 1980 when Super Trouper

act from the top for three weeks

FORTY THREE YEARS AGO

One of the best-selling singles of



1970 came from Dave Edmunds with I Hear You Knocking. It was number one at the end of November 1970

and stayed there for six weeks. The single was actually written in 1955

get off the block Ann Clarkson asks whether Shropshire is equipped with the right facilities to produce the next generation of medalwinning competitive swimmers SHROPSHIRE might be the birthplace of the modern Olympics, but when it comes to swimming the county appears to be floundering in the deep end over carrying on the 2012 legacy. Shropshire has 12 competitive swimming Shropshire has 12 compensive swimming clubs catering for everyone from five year olds just getting water-confident to national and international athletes. But the county which was birthplace to the first man to swim the English Channel can't even boast one competities at and or local. man to swim the English Channel can't even boast one competition-standard pool. And, despite the much-vaunted Olympic legacy, it seems swimmers are missing out when it comes to decent facilities for their sport. As well as nowhere to compete, swimmers used to training up to 20 hours a week often find their council-run pools closed for lengthy periods for maintenance or refurbishment. Wellington was closed for more than a year while the town is civic and leisure centre was redeveloped – even though no changes were made to the pool itself. Oakengates, Market Drayton, Madeley and Bridgnorth have all been closed for running repairs, and Newport is not expected to re-open before March after work to install a new gym ran over by three months. And now the prospect that the county's best pool—the Quarry in Shrewsbury – could be demolished has prompted swimmers, coaches, parents and officials to launch a campaign to make sure any replacement is up to standard. Jean Childs one of Shronshire's ton swimming officients of the county is the summing of the company of the county is the summing of the county is the c

The best competition pool in the county is the Quarry in Shrewsbury but it fails to tick the boxes for parking and poolside space.

needed to run a reasonable standard competition, none

he Quarry in Shrewsbury – could be demolished has prompted swimmers, coaches, parents and officials to launch a campaign to make sure any replacement is up to standard.

Jean Childs, one of Shropshire's top swimming officials and a member of Shropshire Amateur Swimming Association's (ASA) executive committee, said there was no dispute that the Quarry was outdated but called for a new competition-standard pool to be built in the county before it was demolished.

She said: "We need a minimum of a six lane 25m pool with electronic timing and seating for spectators. They need to talk to the right people to make sure we get the right pool."

There are plenty of pools in Shropshire, including newly-built ones at Much Wenlock, Oswestry and Madeley in Telford – but when it comes to everything

the Quarry being demolished has been mooted again, attention has turned to just how to make sure any replacement can cater for competitive swimmers as well as those who want to enjoy a fun splash. A Facebook page – Shropshire Needs a Competition Swimming Pool It Can Be Proud Of – has been set up for swimmers, coaches and parents to have their say, and swimming officials and club representatives plan to meet Shrewsbury MP Daniel Kawczynski in their campaign for competition pool to replace the Quarry. Parent Rachel Jenner-Leleux, whose two daughters swim for Wrekin College, said: "This is fast becoming a joke for our swimmers and the 'legacy' that David Cameron spoke about is being forgotten about as quickly as it took Usain Bolt to run down the track." In her letter to the Prime Minster, she said: "You talked in great length about the legacy of London 2012 but it seems you are going to allow the closure of a fantastic leisure facility in the city centre of Wolverhampton.

Competitive

"It is also very heavily used by swimming clubs all over the Midlands to hold competitive grales for thou-

Competitive

"It is also very heavily used by swimming clubs all over the Midlands to hold competitive galas for thousands of children – your country's future Olympians.
"Children rely on these galas taking place at this pool as they cannot afford to travel any further, especially when they live in rural Shropshire."
And Yvonne Wedden, from Oakengates Swimming Club in Telford, added: "Shropshire itself is without a pool of significance. If Wolverhampton Central Baths were to close I cannot think which pool would be able to accommodate the county championships.

"With the latest research on primary school children not being able to swim, it seems contradictory to close pools. Many of the new build pools do not seem to take competing into account – many are shallow or have no

competing into account – many are shallow or have no facility for diving blocks. In this year of the Olympic facility for diving blocks. In this year of the Olympic legacy it is very sad that swimming clubs are being denied the ability to hold or attend competitive meets to allow our swimmers to develop to county, national and even European level without having to travel further and further away from their home clubs." Maria Neeld, of Newport Swimming Club, added: "What has happened to the Olympic legacy we heard so much about last year? We keep being reminded of the increase in childhood obesity, yet this is the solution."

tion."
Shropshire's competitive clubs are Ellesmere College
Titans, Ludlow, Market Drayton, Newport, Northgate
Bridgnorth, Oakengates, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, The
Court, Wellington, Whitchurch and Wrekin College.

more information visit www.shropshireasa

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Simple ways to control

AN open letter to Ed Davey, Secretary of State For Energy and Climate

prices

Energy and Climate Change, and Ofgem:
It is very clear that virtually the only solution you have to ever-increasing energy bills is to promote better competition. However, the public perception is that the energy companies operate an "informal" cartel, playing follow my leader with price rises, and we thus conclude that moving from

with price rises, and we thus conclude that moving from one supplier to another makes very little difference. If you are really serious about promoting competition, here's how to do it.

Simplify the tariff structure – by legislation – negotiation has failed.

Introduce legislation to restrict price increases to one per year, then use either of these two common ways of promoting competition:

of these two common ways of promoting competition:
Price rise intentions should be given to Ofgem in a sealed envelope, detailing increases (with reasons) one week before the announcement. This is Sealed-bid Tendering which stops follow my leader collusion.
Use the on-line Dutch auction method. Early in November, carry out a pub-

November, carry out a pub-lic Dutch auction for each of lic Dutch auction for each of the tariffs. Companies can see other bids and bid lower if they want the business. The public can see who is bidding what, and who wins and at what price. Nearly all sales executives and purchasing profession-als will be familiar with both methods. It is not ground-breaking both employ well-proven methodology.

proven methodology.
COLIN CASE
Ruyton XI Towns

MP's party backs deals

DANIEL Kawczynski berates the percentage of berates the percentage of money going to the contractors who run the car parking at our hospitals, yet over the last 40 years his party has done more than any other to actively support the use of contracts outsourcing all services and promoting a low wage economy.

Does Mr Kawczynski feel that these companyand the new parking system are there for one reason and one reason only

ason and one reason only to take more money for ss outlay.

E W T PRICE
Alberbury

Politicians are all in it together

DO people really believe that the present economy situation would be any different had the Conservatives been in power [before the 2010 election]? The Labour Government was not

running the economy of America, where the problem started, or that of France, Spain, or Italy to name but a few countries in a similar situation. They were all in it together, to coin a

phrase.
Big increases in pay and bonuses for those at the top and stagnation for private ownership, it was taken back

those at the bottom. George Osborne

those at the bottom. George Usborne has borrowed more money since he became Chancellor than the Labour Government did in its time.

The present housing crisis started with the selling of council houses by Thatcher's Government which benefits the selling of the council houses by Thatcher's Government which benefits the selling of the council houses by Thatcher's Government which benefits the selling of the council houses by Thatcher's Government which benefits the council has been selling of the council houses by Thatcher's Government which benefits the council has been selling of the council has bea Thatcher's Government which bene-fited some but deprived the country of its stock of affordable rented accommo-dation, as she refused to allow councils to use the money to build more homes. The East Coast Railway failed under

under state control and is now the under state control and is now the most efficient and profitable of all lines. It actually pays millions back to the Treasury. What are the Govern-ment's plans for its future? To priva-tise again so that the profits go to the shareholders and not the country?

suarenoiders and not the country?
The trade unions are accused of
being the Labour Party's paymasters.
Is that any different to big business
being the paymasters of the Tories?
TW HILLIER
Llanymynech

right royal welcome from hospital



IT was a right royal line-up of nurses at the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital at Gobowen in January 1932 for a visit by the Duke of Kent.

Unsurprising UK pension is a pittance

HOW very unsurprising to learn that the state pension in Britain is one of the lowest in the developed world, and only Mexican pensioners receive less from their government than we do.

Unsurprising as we are all aware who decides the derisory rate of our pension—the 646 Members of Parliament. Unsurprising as we

-the 646 Members of Parliament. Unsurprising as we also know the priority of a reasonable state pension is so far down the list of their priorities it cannot be seen. The Government has a talent for devising and organising very attractive pensions, like the one they have, renowned for its generosity, magnanimity and erosity, magnanimity and benevolence – care of you and I of course! Do not forand of course! Do not for-et we are all 'in it' together. BOB WYDELL Oswester

Our God had to the Editor to be cruel POST **FAX** E-MAIL Readers' Letters to be kind 01952 letters@oswestry

254605 Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters

True Christians must not support fighting

THE definition of a Christian is one who follows Christ. Ask yourself if Christ would have taken up the sword?

The soldiers asked Jesus "what shall we do? He replied "do violence to no man".

Jesus and some of His disciples were cruelly put to death. Jesus said: "My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom was of this world, then would my servants fight.

If Jesus proscribed fighting, then so should His followers.

True Christianity works for love and peace which, if followed would prevent war.

lowed, would prevent war. lowed, would prevent war.

The only fighting engaged in by Christians is the battle against their own natures as Paul said, "so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: but I keep under my body, and

bring it into subjection".
PETER KEEN, Oswestry

be living in such a great area I WONDER if we realise how lucky we are to live in a town like ours – Oswestry. Speaking as a guy who spent the first 50 years of his

01691 668094

life in a big impersonal city, I find this place lovely to reside in and especially to

reside in and especially to shop in.

I am not among the moaners who say there are no decent shops here, let them travel to big towns further affield if they so wish.

So may I please send my thanks to all the friendly folks who work here and who make my life such a low.

who make my life such a joy every day. Well for a start Jean and

every day.
Well for a start Jean and her staff at Carolines. Must mention all the crew in Greggs, Covent Garden Greenies, Dean and his mates at Morrisons, Peter & Nick at Barclays bikes, everyone behind the bar at Wetherspoons and Highwayman, Owen and his team at Iceland, all the stallholders in the market, Kevin & all the guys at Battams.
To all the staff at Oswestry Library and not forgetting all the lovely ladies in the Orangery at the Derwen College who feed me so well. And last but by no means least John driving his 401 bus who brings me home safe when its pouring with rain.

Some folk may only dis-

with rain.
Some folk may only dispense goodwill at Christ mastime - these good people spread good cheer all year

To them all: a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year – and of course to all reading this too.

Name and address supplied

I DON'T want your God,

he's so cruel, I've just read in the Bible that he ordered

were left to Hourish they
would contaminate the
whole human race which
wasn't numerous then, they
had to be weeded out.
It's like ragwort, some
bright spark thought it
would be nice and imported
this level; wellow flower and

this lovely yellow flower and the seeds blew all over the

country and now it's public enemy number one. God had to be cruel to be kind.

RON JONES Oswestry

999 services on two tiers

in the Bible that he ordered ethnic cleansing, the killing of a whole tribe, men, women and children, terrible. How can you say he's a God of love?

The tribe practised child sacrifice, ritual prostitution and other abominable rites to appease their gods. If they were left to flourish they would contaminate the I WISH to congratulate Shropshire Council for being one of the first in the coun one of the first in the country to achieve the distinction of creating a two-tier police and ambulance service – and a two-tier fire service too.

The people of Shropshire will be proud of you.

will be proud of you.

Councillors say they have no say on how these services are run, so how did Telford get an ambulance hub?

I understand the ambition of the council is that all their senior citizens get the same standards of service but this component with the service of the same standards of service.

but this seems only to apply if you live in Shrewsbury or Telford.

JOHN F BICKERTON Oswestry

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Q: Years ago my father had an Enduring Power of Attorney which enabled me to handle his affairs. My cousin recently decided to do the same after suffering a potentially life-threatening illness but was told she must create a Lasting Power of Attorney. What is the difference between an

A: EPAs could only be made until 30th September 2007, when the Mental Capacity Act 2005 came into force. They were replaced by LPAs. EPAs made before law changed are still valid and may be used immediately whilst the person who created the EPA has mental capacity. When a person has lost capacity to deal with their own affairs, the EPA must be registered with the Office of the Public Guardian for it to continue to be used.

LPAs are slightly different as they must be registered before they may be used, irrespective of capacity. There are two types of LPA; a Property and Financial Affairs LPA which allows you to appoint an attorney to manage your property and finances, and a Health and Welfare LPA which allows you to appoint an attorney to make decisions on your behalf regarding your medical treatment and welfare, but only when you have lost capacity to make the decisions yourself. In the Health and Welfare LPA, you may specifically give your attorney(s) the ability to give or refuse consent to life-saving medical treatment on your behalf.

Unlike the EPA, the creation of an LPA is rather involved and includes a number of safeguards, including a requirement that the person setting up the LPA is certified to have the mental capacity to do so, and is doing so without being subjected to any pressure or fraud. A solicitor, medical professional or a person who has known you for a certain amount of time is able to provide the necessary certificate

Further information relating to this guestion is available from Victoria Wilson, a Senior Solicitor with GHP Legal. For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194, visit www.ghplegal.co.uk For Personal Injury and Family matters we offer a FREE legal diagnostic clinic every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation



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NEWS

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Fast food chain to alter site proposals

MINOR amendments are being made to the design of a McDonald's restaurant which will be built as part of Swestry's huge £45 million edge-of-town development.

A Morrison's supermarket, a multiplex cinema and a Frankie and Benny's restaurant are also to be built alongside the McDonald's outlet as part of the transformation of the Smithfield livestock site on Shrewsbury Road on the outskirts of town.

McDonald's has lodged a planning application with Shropshire Council for an amendment to its approved plans. Among the changes will be the relocation of the entrance lobby, a minor extension to the presented

entrance lobby, a minor extension to the presented booth and an internal reconfiguration.

figuration.

And the fast food giant has also lodged a separate application with the council asking for permission to site various signs. The signs will include McDonald's traditional arch panels and an affresco roof arch.

Shropshire Council expects to make a decision

Shropshire Council expects to make a decision

expects to make a decision on the applications by the end of January.

The redevelopment of the site will be carried out in phases. The development will begin with the building of a new livestock market, followed by the building of the supermarket, restaurants and cinema.

Muslims still searching for permanent meeting place

place to call home.

Oswestry Muslim Society currently meets at the Eastern Oswestry Commu-

nity Centre but have been looking for over a year for a permanent home.

The group had won planning permission to convert a 19th century Presbyterian church on Oswald Road into its new base earlier this year. But the plans were abandoned because of the cost of the necessary development of the property.

The group says it is still looking for a long term home and has discussed two potential

Afternoon tea

for pensioners

A GROUP of elderly people enjoyed an afternoon tea thanks to the girls and staff at Moreton Hall School near Oswestry.

The school hosted the tea for members of the Oswestry Contact the Elderly group. Organisers said there were plenty of sandwiches, gorgeous cakes and scones on offer and the girls sat and chatted to the older guests, with the conversation flowing as freely as the tea.

At the end of the afternoon all the older guests were given a card and a box of truffles to take home.

Teacher David Reffell said: "We like to

get very involved in the community, and this was a great opportunity to meet some very interesting people from Contact the Fildorly.

"The girls thoroughly enjoyed it and loved hearing stories about the Blitz in Coventry and early 20th century education for girls in Shropshire."

very in Elderly.

The school hosted the tea for members of

by lain St John

properties in the town. George Miah from the group said: "We

George Minar Troll the group state: we have been looking at two buildings but we are not quite sure.

"We are keeping our options open. The two buildings are available but we want to get the decision right.

"We don't need a large building, just somewhere big enough for 40 or 50 people to moet."

to meet.

"Sometimes we have about 70 people

"Sometimes we have about 70 people come but no more than that normally." The group's plans for Oswald attracted opposition from the British National Party and more than 70 people wrote to Shropshire Council objecting to the proposal, with more than 40 people writing in support. Mr Miah said despite the views expressed by the BNP, the reaction from the public to the plans had been favourable. He said: "People have been supportive and they want us to find a suitable meeting place."

and they want us to find a suitable meeting place."

Mr Miah was involved in a separate proposal earlier this year for the development of Shrewsbury's first dedicated Muslim prayer centre.

Councillors gave that plan the go-ahead after hearing from local residents who were supported by the proposal control of the prevent.

supportive of the proposal.

He said: "It was wonderful to hear that

sort of support from the local residents.

"Hopefully we can soon have something like it in Oswestry."

Choirs entertain shoppers



Members of the Oswestry Choral Society singing in the shop. Picture: lan Sheppard.

SHOPPERS stocking up for Christmas at a town centre supermarket were greeted by choirs singing festive carols and songs. Choirs from across Oswestry were in full voice at the town's Sainsbury's store as part of national carol singing weekend. The in-store music was turned off to

allow shoppers to enjoy the singing.

Local community groups were invited to sign up to take part and raise funds for local

Singers of all abilities from amateur enthusiasts to professional choirs, families and friends, and schools, charities and com-munity clubs, joined in to spread the festive cheer. Store manager Bryan Martingano said the music had brought a smile to everyone's feaces.

faces.

"It's lovely to hear the festive spirit coming to life," he said. "We've had great feedback from customers."

Suspect in knife case is rearrested

A MAN who was given bail over an assault involving a knife has been re-arrested, police have said.

The suspect was initially arrested at the end of last month over the assault, which took place in Oswestry, and was taken into custody.

He was questioned over an incident at Coney Green on October 10 in which a man armed with a knife attempted to rob a woman walking to work.

The suspect received

walking to work.

The suspect received police bail pending further inquiries but Oswestry Sergeant Lee Johnson has said the man, who has not been named, had been rarrested.

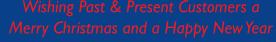
Writing on Twitter Sgt Johnson said: "The male arrested on November 28 for the assault in Coney Green has just been rearrested as

has just been rearrested as further evidence has come to light.

No further information was available although the suspect has since been released from custody pending more inquiries. The woman suffered hand

The woman suffered hand injuries in the attack, which happened at the Coney Green footpath off Black Gate Street, near Sainsbury's supermarket, at 6.50am. The attacker approached from behind. The victim ran towards the Morrisons supermarket.

Welshpool's Largest Furniture Store Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year











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Brochure on best

NEWS

THE highlights of Shropshire and the Welsh borders are being shown off in a new tourism brochure.

The 2014 Shropshire & Welsh Borders brochure has been produced by Shropshire Tourism as the official fourist audie promoting the

shire Tourism as the official tourist guide promoting the whole of Shropshire.
Jodie Stephen from Shropshire Tourism, who led on the production of the guide, said: "The Shropshire & Welsh borders brochure is an integral part of our marketing campaign and remains highly popular with our members and visitors alike.

"The magazine-style brochure continues to include places to stay, things to see and do, as well as showing potential visitors what Shropshire's market towns have on offer, and it now looks better than ever."

Mrs Stephen said that despite information being widely available on the internet, many people still use printed brochures to plan a trip.

"Research shows that many visitors still need printed brochures with 37 per cent of UK visitors using an official tourist board brochure to plan their trip," magazine-style

brochure to plan their trip," she said.
"This figure is even

she said.
"This figure is even higher for the more traditional visitors that Shropshire attracts taking short breaks in the county."
The first brochures will be sent out before Christmas, with more being made available widely in January.

spotlight Farmers warned to lock up attractions tools in bid to reduce thefts

and pocket their keys to help cut down on rural thefts.

Dyfed-Powys Police officers are warning farmers not to leave keys in the ignition of their tractors and quad bikes

And they say smaller, high-value tools are also a target for opportunists.

Inspector Brian Jones said: "When it comes to fuel remember to lock up your fuel tank, monitor your fuel usage and hide any fuel containers.

"Keep your hedges, fences and gates in good repair. Ditches can form a natural barrier

by Josh Boswell

Rhino art aids conservation

A UNIQUE sculpture of a rhino's head.

A UNIQUE sculpture of a rhino's head, crafted in Oswestry, is to play a role in the international campaign to save the animal from extinction in Africa.

British Ironworks is supporting the campaign following a visit by North Shropshire MP and Environment Secretary Owen Paterson.

Clive Knowles, managing director, said:
"Mr Paterson told us that African Rhinos
could be lost forever within the next decade.

could be lost forever within the next decade.

"He is representing the British Government, which has offered additional resources to counter illegal poaching for the animals' horns. The British Ironwork Centre's only method of assisting was to create something spectacular which would help inspire others to support the British effort and campaign."

and campaign."

Mr Knowles and sculptor Alfie Bradley took the bust to the Houses of Parliament to present to the MP.

took the buse to the MP.

Mr Paterson said: "I'm really grateful to Clive and all of his team for this very striking sculpture to remind everyone of the horrors of this trade and the short time we've got to work as a generation to stop it."

on taniers.

of repair. Ditches can form a natural barrier and can stop thieves getting in. Fit field gates with capping hinges and padlocks so they cannot be removed easily."

Farm Watch, an early warning scheme led by the National Farmers Union (NFU) Mutual and Dyfed Powys Police, has been helping to combat crime around farms, and now covers the whole of North Powys with almost 200 members.

Steve Kenyon, NFU group secretary and insurance agent in Welshpool, said: "We've now been running since February this year. The response from it has been superb.

"As the police are in attendance, I get a text from the police which then I send out to the 191 members of the scheme, which will say for example, 'a blue van is acting suspiciously in such and such and area'."

M'r Kenyon's number one piece of advice to farmers was "keys out of quads".

He said: "I know it's very difficult on the farms, they are a working environment, but it's about trying to keep things locked.

"We've seem elt of contrible tooks to the seems of the steller steller they are a working environment, but it's about trying to keep things locked."

farms, they are a working environment, but it's about trying to keep things locked. "We've seen a lot of portable tools stolen. Remain vigilant and use the 101 non-emer-gency number to report to the police." Alwyn Vaughan, Farmers Union of Wales Montgomeryshire county chairman, said all members concerned about sheep thefts should "become involved in their local Farm Watch schope and report any suspicious

Watch scheme and report any suspicious activities to the police".
"This is especially important if such activities are being conducted at night," he

added.

"Record details of any suspicious people or vehicles that you come across and report it to us as soon as you can on 101."

Pupils find hats the way to do it



Pupils Luke Samuel, Maddie Bakeman and Olivia Middleton, of The Marches School in Oswestry, with hats that have been made for the Growing Minds Day.

IT MAY be some way from Europe's fashion pictures and interviewed classmates about centres such as London and Milan – but youngsters at one Oswestry school turned into hat designers for the day.

The Marches School turned in the Growing Minds Day.

The Marches School turned in the Growing Minds Day.

The Marches School turned in the Growing Minds Day.

The Marches School turned in the Growing Minds Day.

into nat designers for the day.

The Marches School was transformed into a riot of colour as Year 7 pupils paraded their eye-catching hats during a grand finale fashion show at the end of the day.

Nine students became part of a news crew reporting on the day as it unfolded.

Supported by Year 19 make at the studies at

Supported by Year 12 media studies students, the Year 7 pupils made videos, took

shown in assemblies

Sarah Peacock, leader of citizenship at The Marches, said: "The whole project was part of Growing Minds Independent Enquirer Day, which is designed to provide Year 7 students with a practical experience of working independently outside of the traditional classroom environment."

01691 668094 MP's Bill to urge tough sentences on drivers

THE death of an Overton youngster could lead to tougher penalties being introduced for driving offences which lead to fatal-

A Bill will be brought to Parliament next month call-ing for a review of sentenc-ing guidelines in such cases.

ing guidelines in such cases.
It is being brought by Clwyd South MP Susan Elan Jones following the death of nine-year-old Robert Gaunt, from Overton. Robert died after being hit by a car near his home in 2009.
The car driver, 61-year-old David James Lunn, of Moorland Avenue, Wrexham, was jailed for 22 months and banned from driving for four years after admitting having

years after admitting having no licence or insurance and perverting the course of jus-

Mold Crown Court was told Lunn drove off in his Jaguar sports car after hit-ting Robert. The court heard ting Robert. The court heard he attempted to destroy evidence by burning his car's damaged bumper and buying a new one. Robert had been crossing the A539 with friends on March 19, 2009, when he was knocked down.

Ms Elan Jones said she would be bringing a Bill before Parliament on January 8.

She said: "It is effectively a Justice for Robert Bill.

a Justice for Robert Bill.

"A review must be made of the maximum penalties to get justice for those families torn apart by these terrible offences."

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in brief

Festive fair to be held at town hall

A FESTIVE Fair will be held tomorrow (Friday) in the Corn Exchange of Welshpool Town Hall from 9am to raise funds for the Senior Citizens new year

party.

There will be tea coffee mince pies, a raffle, tombola and other stalls.

The annual party will take place on January 28 and will be open to all over 60s from Welshpool and surrounding areas. Tickets can be obtained from can be obtained from Welshpool Jewellers or Flaunt It card shop next to Supascoop Welshpool.

MP backs calls on condition detection

MP Glyn Davies is back-ing calls to improve detec-tion of a condition which can lead to strokes, heart failure and premature death each year.

Mr Davies, Conserva-tive MP for Mont-gomeryshire, is calling for improved detection and treatment of atrial fibril-lation.

For more information visit www.atrialfibrilla tion.org.uk

New year stroll for walking group

GWYNETH Prosser will lead Welshpool Ramblers on a New Year's Day walk starting at 11am from Abermule.

Abermule.

On a recent walk
Heather Smith led 11
ramblers on a circular
walk in the Breidden Forest.

Archaeological dig unearths historical Roman artefacts

HISTORICAL artefacts dating back to Roman times were among the items dis-covered in an archaeological dig organ-

covered in an archaeological dig organised by an Oswestry man.

About 20 people armed with metal detectors found hammered coins dating back to the 14th century and Roman fibulas, or brooches, during the dig on agricultural land near Newport on Sunday.

They formed part of a metal detecting forum that was set up in July by Roger Gamblin, of Oswestry.

Mr Gamblin, 50, said: "We had several hammered coins, one dates back to the early 1300s and two around the 1500s. We also found two Roman fibulas dating to around the second or third century.

"A friend of mine from Cardiff is a bit of an artefact expert so they will go to him and get recorded. "There were 23 of us and we covered 67 acres.

Charity

Charity

Charity

"We charge everybody who attends a dig £8 which we give to the farmer who owns the land. He has kindly said half the proceeds will be going to charity, in this case Hope House.

"The best thing about my hobby is that you never know what you are going to find."

Mr Gamblin added: "I started the forum in July and have 197 members now. We have been concentrating on the Lilleshall area.

"We have been going every Sunday but it is once a fortnight at the moment because of the time of year and the weather. Since July we have had six Bronze Age axe heads, a dagger, 70 hammered coins and 10 to 12 Roman fibulas. to 12 Roman fibulas.

to 12 Roman fibulas.

"Anything that is over 300-years-old is nice to find.

We get spurred on by finding anything of age.

"Our aim is to get more people to join us. We are also hoping to get more people interested in the types of things being found in their area."

For more information visit www.detecting-in-



Roger Gamblin of the metal detecting forum Detecting England with some their latest items unearthed in Newport.

lighting switch-off

01691 668094

energy in Oswestry by switching off some of the street lights have been put on hold.

on hold.

The town council had hoped to convert 300 of its 460 footway lights so that they could be turned off between midnight and 5am saving money and energy.

But at a meeting of the town council Councillor Martin Bennett said the way some of the lights are connected to each other which

nected to each other which means that they can't be converted immediately. He said: "For the lights on the "5th core' system you don't get a single light out, you get a whole area out, and that goes back to the substation. "You have to get Scottish Power out to solve the problem and their general call-out time is four weeks." A report prepared for the meeting said that as many as 366 town council lights are on the system. nected to each other which

as 366 town council lights are on the system.

Although the council had set aside a budget of £15,000 for the work to be completed, the report said that the cost of converting the lights from the system so that they could be switched off would incur "significant additional costs".

The meeting heard that Shropshire Council is meeting with the contractors to discuss how lights on the 5th

discuss how lights on the 5th core system could be converted.

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ELSHPOOL

01691 668094

in brief

Council confirms collection dates

POWYS County Council has confirmed the dates for rubbish collections in the Welshpool area over the festive period.

Monday, December 23,

Monday, December 23, no change; Tuesday, December 24, no change; Wednesday, December 27; Thursday, December 27; Thursday, December 28; Friday, December 28; Friday, December 29; Monday, December 29; Monday, December 30, no change; Tuesday, December 31, no change; Wednesday, January 1, now Thursday, January 2, now Sunday, January 3, now Saturday, January 3, now Saturday, January 4.

In the week beginning

January 4.

In the week beginning January 6, all recycling and rubbish kerbside collections will return to the normal day.

Chance to claim

your raffle prize
WELSHPOOL Town
Council raffle winners
Arthur Jones - Bron-yBuckley, ticket 75; ticket 86
and ticket 130 - who failed
to claim their prizes can do
so at the town hall between
9am and 2.30pm, Monday
to Friday to Friday.

Frugal lunch

WELSHPOOL Rotary Club held the "Frugal Lunch" at Church House on December 11 when the president Olwen John welcomed visi-tors Wendy Hutchinson, Christine Jones and Margaret Pepper.

No-confidence vote could force out council leader



eBooks service

WELSHPOOL Library users no longer need to physically visit the library to get their reading fix, it can all be done from the comfort of their own home.

A free service – eBooks for Wales – enables library members to choose from a wide selection of titles from classics and fiction to cookery and sport. There are also eBooks for children.

eBooks for children.

Members are given a library ticket, which is needed to register on-line along with a PIN to access services. Once registered, the eBooks site allows members to borrow up to four books at a time, and each download is available for up to three weeks.

There is no charge and books will automatically disappear from a device at the end of the loan period.

Not all tablets can access library eBooks with Kindle e-Readers incompatible due to Amazon devices not supporting library-loaned material.

Details at www.powys.gov.uk

Details at www.powys.gov.uk

THE leader of Powys County Council could be forced to stand down after claims that he has no mandate to run the council, it has been claimed.

David Jones, who farms at Guilsfield near Welshpool, will face a vote of no confidence at an extraordinary meeting of the full council which has been called for January 10.

The vote was called after Councillor Jones joined the Powys Independent Alliance last week, leaving the Shire Independent Group, which he was leading when he was voted into nower.

Library offers

into power.

It follows a no confidence motion put for-

It follows a no confidence motion put forward by members of a new Independent Group led by Councillor Graham Brown.
Councillor Brown said Powys Independent Alliance councillors did not want to hold the vote before Christmas, so it had been scheduled for the new year.
"We have asked for the extraordinary meeting for the issue to be dealt with urgently," he said. "We're now waiting for January 10, hoping for the vote to be successful so that we can carry on running Powys in a safe and stable environment.
"Assuming the vote is successful, the new leader of the council would be appointed almost immediately."

almost immediately."
Councillor Brown said members of his group were concerned as the people of Powys had voted in the leader of the Shire Independent Group as the leader of the council because "they didn't want the Powys Independent Alliance in power".

"The Powys Independent Aliance in power "
"The Powys Independent Aliance is now the ruling administration because of the council leader's actions and this is contrary to what people voted for," he added.
Following Councillor Jones' move, the Powys Independent Alliance now holds all 10 cabinet posts.

Students in contest cook-off



Front, left to right, are Amy Emberton and Dale Maczak, with, back row, Lucy Jones, Olwen John, president, Welshpool Rotary Club, Brian Jones of Bistro7, Megan Northcott and Cate Breese at Welshpool High School.

HIGH School pupil Amy Emberton proved she knows her way around the kitchen by winning the Welshpool heat of the Rotary Young Chef Of The Year competition.

The event was organised in conjunction with Welshpool Rotary Club and Amy now goes forward to compete head-to-head with Ceri Suckley, the Llanfyllin High School

winner, for a place in the district final in February.

Judging the competition was Brian Jones, of Bistro7, Welshpool, who commented on the very high standard of all the competitors, and he was able to pass on some hints and tips. Amy won a bag of kitchen gadgets for her efforts.

Blow for school as tables are released

WELSHPOOL High School has dropped a band in the Welsh Government's school

Welsh Government's school banding, placing it in the lower 50 per cent of performing schools in Wales.

It had been in Band 2 for the past year, which placed in "top 50 per cent of schools in Wales". But in tables released this week, the school has returned to Band 3 where it was in 2011.

The Government states that the handline is not

The Government states that the banding is not about "labelling" schools, and yet a drop from Band 2 to 3 demonstrates a change to the school's otherwise impeccable status up until now in terms of exam results and education in the area.

The Welsh Government states: "The model for secondary schools uses a mix of data to reflect most recent outcomes, progress over

outcomes, progress over time, contextual results and value added."

value added."

A statement says: "The Minister has stated categorically that banding is not about labelling schools, naming and shaming or creating a divisive league table. "It is about grouping schools according to a range of factors to establish priorities for differentiated support.

ort.

"The most important element of the banding system will be the framework of support and challenge that will be developed over time to accompany each band."

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Tuesday 24th December Christmas Eve 4.00 pm. CRIB SERVICE

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11.30 pm. Midnight Mass

Music: Darke in F;In the bleak midwinter - Darke; Ding dong merrily on high - Trad (arr. Wood)

Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day

10.30 am. Festival Eucharist

Music: St Albans Service - Archer Hodie Christus natus est - Sweelinck

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takes on

top role



Malcolm Roberts

AN Oswestry farmer has taken over as the NFU Shropshire's representative on the union's council for the next two years, replacing an stalwart. industry

From February, Malcolm Roberts will replace Arthur Hill who has represented members on the NFU Council for a decade.

Mr Roberts said: "I feel honoured to be following in Arthur's footsteps and I sincerely thank him for his time, effort and the thoughtfulness put in over more than 40 years. We wish him all the best in the future."

Mr Roberts was elected at the Shropshire NFU's annual general meeting at the Greenhous Meadow Stadium in Shrewsbury.

Housing group staff rally with NFU round to help care-leavers

will have a bit of festive cheer this Christmas.

The workers at Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing, the group which took over the running of council housing in Oswestry this year, donated 26 gift boxes to young care leavers in the county. The gift boxes were packed with toiletries, Christmas gifts and confection on the county.

fectionery.
Staff compiled the gifts boxes over several weeks. They then organised a packing day where items were divided up, wrapped in Christmas paper and cards were written to the young people.

by lain St John
The gift boxes were then collected by Shropshire Council's children's social work.

Shropshire Council's children's social work team who will hand them out to the young care leavers in the run up to Christmas.

Sue Adams, managing director at Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing, said: "Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing are committed to making a positive impact in our local communities in lots of ways. "There are many young people out there on their own at Christmas, with no gifts.

Deed

"Donating these gifts is not just about

"Donating these gifts is not just about doing a good deed at Christmas, but showing how important we feel in supporting these young people and to raise public awareness of those youngsters who have faced many challenges in their lives. "We wanted to make the gift boxes as personal as we could and hope the young people enjoy them."

senia as we will all index let young people enjoy them."
Senior social worker Victoria Drury, who put out the request for donations said: "Working with so many vulnerable children and families in Shropshire, it is easy to overlook these young adults who are really struggling often with little support from family or friendship networks. "The open handed generosity with which Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing and many other individuals and departments within Shropshire Council, have reached out has been truly amazing."

out has been truly amazing.

Plans for A&E under attack

A PROPOSAL for the potential downgrade of the A&E department at a hospital which serves parts of Shropshire is "totally ridiculous", a councillor has claimed.

Councillor Ian Roberts, who represents Chirk on Wrexham County Borough Council, said the plans for Wrexham Maelor Hospital were "potentially detrimental" for people on both sides of the Shropshire/Welsh border who use it.

Welsh Assembly health minister Mark Drakeford has confirmed the A&E department at the hospital is one of three in North Wales which may be downgraded. The other two are at Ysbyty Gwynedd in Bangor and Glan Clwyd Hospital at Bodelwyddan. Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, which runs Wrexham Maelor Hospital, said no decision had been.

Councillor Roberts said: "For anything to

Councillor Roberts said: "For anything to be downgraded at the Wrexham Maelor is totally ridiculous. The hospital serves quite a large built-up area

Students display their skills



Derwen College students Neil Dew, Alessandra Morelli, Jade Cunningham and Lynsey Thompson.

The galleries and cranger for in Oswestry were thrown open to parents and visitors, who were able to buy produce made by the students.

Mark Williams, head of retail at Derwen College, said: "More than 30 students took part in the Christmas show, and at least 300 guests had come in to watch the show."

He added: "The students were involved with everything. There were felt items, glass fusing, Christmas card printing, and in the food centre there were jams and chutneys. Everything that we've made is done by students."

"The students really like

we've "mate is done by students."

"The students really like it, it's something they are excited about right from the start of term. All the costumes are made here at the college. The costumes hire company Ruby Slipper."

Monday's show was also the last evening of the autumn term, and featured a performance from the college Makaton choir.

cut back at park's

play area

THE playground in
Oswestry's Cae Glas Park
has been cleared of overhanging trees that were
causing an obstruction

nanging trees that were causing an obstruction.

Glenys Davies, facilities manager at Oswestry
Town Council, said the work on the cherry trees was part of a list of main-

was part of a list of main-tenance jobs which would be carried out over the winter.

"We're trimming some trees in the playground because they were getting quite overhanging and making the area dark and damp," she said.

"The parents can now sit there and have a better

sit there and have a better view of their children in the park

the park."

Mrs Davies said further work to the trees in the park was planned for January and February.

She said: "We have got a couple of diseased cherry trees by the bowling green that we will be looking to take out and replace in the take out and replace in the

take out and replace in the new year as well. "Around those trees and in that area we're going to plant a bed with plants that were used about 100 years ago as part of the commemorations of the centenary of the First World War.

"It's all ongoing

improvements to make the park a nice place to visit.

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hristmas TV

Festive film guide

Turn on, tune in, laugh and cry

The Star's film critic Carl Jones previews the top TV films over Christmas and New Year.

FINDING NEMO

FINDING NEMO
(BBC One, 5.55pm Christmas Eve)
One of Pixar's animated masterpieces. Marlin the neurotic clownfish embarks on an epic rescue mission when his only son is caught and re-housed in a fish tank in a dentist's waiting room.



Excitement for children in Wreck-It Ralph

WRECK-IT RALPH
(Sky Premiere, 7.15pm Christmas Eve)
Wreck-It Ralph (voiced by John C Reilly) is the bad guy
in a computer game, but yearns to be a hero. So he
breaks with protocol and escapes into another game, causing chaos.

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

(Channel 4, 1.10pm Christmas Eve)
An all-time Christmas great. James Stewart is a hard-working everyman who contemplates suicide after running into cash trouble, until an angel shows him how much he is loved.



It's a hard life for the gang in Toy Story 3

TOY STORY 3 (BBC One, 3.20pm, Christmas Day)
As Andy prepares to leave for college, his toys end up in a bin liner destined for the loft. But Andy's mum mistakes it for a bag of rubbish, and donates them to a day centre, where life is brutal.

MICHAEL JACKSON'S THIS IS IT

MICHAEL JACKSON'S THIS IS IT (Five, 9.30pm Christmas Day)
A tantalising glimpse of what might have been. This is a compilation of interviews, rehearsals and backstage footage of Michael Jackson as he prepared for his sold-out 2009 shows.

LOVE ACTUALLY

(ITY, 10.45m Christmas Day)
A soft-centred 2003 romantic drama which follows the lives of eight very different couples in dealing with their love lives in loosely related tales during a frantic month before Christmas.

CASABLANCA
(Five, 2.35pm Christmas Day)
One of cinema's great romantic dramas, starring
Humphrey Bogart as Rick, the owner of a Moroccan bar
whose life is turned upside down when the former love
of his life (Ingrid Bergman) walks in.

(Sky Premiere, 8pm Christmas Day)
Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr) has become a recluse, but he's provoked into world-saving action when his clifftop mansion is bombed by a terrorist group headed by The Mandarin (Ben Kingsley).



Fighting for his soul - Harry is back in action

HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS

THE TOTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS (ITV, 7.15pm, Boxing Day)
The first half of the final book sees Harry racing to destroy the Horcruxes, where Voldemort has hidden his soul. He uncovers the existence of three most powerful objects in the wizarding world. Part two is on New Year's Day.



You're nicked: Les Dennis is arrested – presumably by the fashion police – in Midsomer Murders



So how did he do it? All will be revealed as Holmes is reunited with Watson in a new series of Sherlock



Death Comes to Pemberley is a follow-up to Pride and Prejudice, beginning six years on

real feast

Where would we be without the ability to record our favourite TV shows? Struggling this Christmas, that's for sure, because ITV and the BBC are putting their big hitters headto-head as they slug it out in a battle for festive ratings.

Matt Smith's final performance in Doctor Who is pitched against Coronation Street's festive edition, for example, with both hour-long programmes due to be screened at 7.30pm on Christmas Day.

There are other clashes too. The now traditional Christmas

edition of Downton Abbey on ITV will go up against the combined might on BBC One of EastEnders – with Danny Dyer joining the show as the new man at the Queen Vic – a Mrs Brown's Boys Christmas special, and a 25-minute chunk of

Michael McIntyre's Showtime.

The BBC's Strictly Come Dancing seasonal edition will go up against an ITV special of Paul O'Grady's For The Love Of Dogs, while the return of BBC's Call The Midwife is sched-uled against ITV's explosive 60-minute Emmerdale. This year's BBC line-up also includes the period drama

Death Comes To Pemberley, an adaptation of David Walliams's hit book Gangsta Granny, and the Oscar-winning ani-

mated movie Toy Story 3.

Other festive ITV shows include a carol concert on Christmas Eve at 10.15pm hosted by Aled Jones, which will see Single will his young successor Jack Topping, the choirboy who is bidding for a Christmas number one after signing a deal with Decca.

On the same day the station will screen a documentary about Gary Barlow's Journey To Afghanistan, and movie offerings over the holiday period include free-to-air premieres for Harry Potter And The Deathly Hallows.

So, who will emerge triumphant? Well, with viewers needing to record many of the shows which clash, chances are they'll opt to watch the commercial-free zone of the BBC, and

use the fast forward button on their ITV favourites.

Last year, EastEnders retained its position as the mostwatched show based on overnight ratings, with an average audience of 9.4 million - 600,000 ahead of nearest rival

For some, though, the highlight doesn't arrive until New Year's Day with the return of Benedict Cumberbatch as Sherlock. Just how did he survive that tower block fall?

Here's a sneak-peek at some of the festive fare:

DOWNTON ARREY

(ITV, Christmas Day)

Viewers catch up with the Crawley family six months on from where we left them at the end of series four. Bucking-ham Palace features, as the Crawleys head to London for

Rose's 'coming out'.

It suggests that viewers are in for a far happier Christmas special than last year's show, when Matthew Crawley was killed off in a car accident hours after welcoming his son

Shirley Maclaine's character Martha Levinson will also make a re-appearance, and Oscar-nominated US actor Paul Giamatti makes his Downton debut as Cora's 'maverick play-

boy' brother, Harold.

The show's executives have revealed that he will play 'the rather free-spirited uncle to Mary and Edith' and that he and Maclaine will 'upset the Grantham's apple cart'.

CALL THE MIDWIFE

(BBC One, Christmas Day)

If Downton doesn't float your boat, the second yuletide offering from Call The Midwife just might. It's 1959, and midwife Jenny is still smitten with Alec, her colleague Chummy is adjusting to motherhood and Shelagh (the former Sister Bernadette) is facing life without her nun's habit but with a fisce of its the ise Poeter Turnger of the second in the size of the second in the se fiancé in that nice Doctor Turner.

Yet it's not all festive births, cheery nativity plays and carols around the piano. This year, the midwives' Christmas celebrations are interrupted by the discovery in the neighbour-hood of an unexploded Second World War bomb. "A couple of bombs were found in the east end in those

years so it was in the news, it was happening," explains Helen George, who plays bubbly midwife Trixie



unton Abbey festive special this year as the family romises to be a far cheerier Do

This discovery means Christmas preparations are forgotten as the residents of Poplar find themselves under threat. The midwives soon jump into action, guiding the community to safety. But will Christmas Day dawn with a bang?

GANGSTA GRANNY

(BBC One, Boxing Day)
Last Christmas we watched David Walliams' Mr Stink. Following its success, another of his bestselling children's books has been adapted for television: Gangsta Granny features an all-star cast including Miranda Hart, Rob Brydon,

Joanna Lumley, Julia McKenzie and the author himself.
Walliams and Hart play the parents of schoolboy Ben, who are obsessed by Strictly Come Dancing. Like the fake tan they apply every day before filming, it didn't take long for their characters' dancing addiction to rub off on them.

DOCTOR WHO: TIME OF THE DOCTOR

(BBC One, Christmas Day)
We've already had an unofficial close-up of his forehead in the 50th anniversary special, but this is the episode in which Peter Capaldi makes his official debut as the Doctor, as Matt Smith bows out of the role.

The Christmas-set storyline will see the Time Lord take on the massed forces of the universe's deadliest species. There will be cybermen, weeping angels, and several surprises as the Doctor visits Trenzalore with his feisty assistant Clare (Jenna Coleman) seeking a way of finding his home planet of Gallifrey, which was for so long considered destroyed.

DEATH COMES TO PEMBERLEY

(BBC One, Boxing Day)
Jenna Coleman may be best known as Matt Smith's plucky companion in Doctor Who but we'll also see a fierier side to her in PD James's 'sequel' to Pride and Prejudice, which also stars Matthew Rhys as Mr Darcy and Anna Maxwell Martin as Elizabeth.

Coleman plays Lizzy's capricious voungest sister, Lydia Wickham. "The director's note was: we should want to slap you in the face," she recalls. "I just couldn't say no to it.
"When you read the book, Lydia is described as ignorant,

idle, vain, volatile... I had so much dramatic licence, which I was really excited about."

Death Comes to Pemberley takes place six years after

Pride and Prejudice ends and is a murder mystery. On the eve of the Darcys' annual ball, Lydia stumbles out of a room, screaming that her husband has been murdered.

SHERLOCK (BBC One, New Year's Day)

Unplug the phone, and cancel the family night out. One of the most intelligent and engaging TV dramas in years is back. We will finally get to find out how Sherlock Holmes cheated death after apparently falling from the roof of a high-

The reunion of Sherlock and Watson - who has lived for two years presuming his pal is dead - promises to be a highlight. Then there's the small matter of trying to stop a terrorist

hristmas

Together again . . . The girls of Birds of a Feather return with a new series in the new year



Christmas essentials: Morecambe and Wise with one of their most famous pals. Des O'Connor



The midwives are back on duty as an unexploded Second World War bomb threatens Christmas

treats



and servants travel to Londor

BIRDS OF A FEATHER (ITV. January 2)

Fifteen years after the hit sitcom was axed by the BBC, Linda Robson and Pauline Quirke reprise their roles on ITV in new series written by original creators Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran

In this opener, we discover the wedge which had been driven between sisters Tracev and Sharon, and find out why leopard print-lover Dorien penned an erotic novel novel called 60 Shades of Green.

STRICTLY COME DANCING CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

(BBC One, Christmas Day)
The main series will have shuffled off the dancefloor, but there'll still be one more dose of ballroom glitter to come

courtesy of the festive special.

This year, the likes of DJ Sara Cox, The Saturdays' Rochelle Humes, EastEnder Ricky Norwood and comedian Rufus Hound will be strutting their stuff.

Expect seasonal one-liners from Bruce, the judges giving indiscriminate 10s all over the place (because it's Christmas after all) and sexy Santa costumes a-plenty.

MOONFLEET

(Sky 1, December 28 and 29)
Sky gets in on the Christmas blockbuster action with a swashbuckling 18th century tale starring Ray Winstone as the leader of a band of smugglers after Blackbeard's treas-



Julia McKenzie stars the TV adaptation of David Walliams' comedy caper Gangsta Granny



David Jason steps into the late Ronnie Barker's role at the famous corner shop in Still Open All Hours

It is set in the small Dorset village of Moonfleet and follows the young John Trenchard who is haunted by dreams of the legendary Blackbeard and captivated by the whereabouts of his fabled diamond.

Desperate to join the local band of smugglers, a turn of events unites him with Elzevir Block, the leader of the gang. Together they embark on a danger-filled adventure to locate Blackbeard's most treasured possession.

STILL OPEN ALL HOURS

(BBC One, Boxing Day)
The classic BBC sitcom returns for a special one-off episode. David Jason's Granville takes pride of place behind the counter of the corner shop now that his curmudgeonly Uncle Arkwright (the late, great Ronnie Barker) has shuffled off to that great convenience store in the sky.

Lynda Baron is also back as the venerable Nurse Gladys,

while there's a new arrival in the shape of Granville's son (James Baxter) – a bit of a ladies' man by all counts.

MRS BROWN'S BOYS

(BBC One, Christmas Day)
In the first of a two-parter, Mrs Brown sets out to try to find out what her grandson wants for Christmas. Agnes is ready for a very Mammy Christmas, eager to make sure she doesn't end up on top of the tree like she did last year.

Games night dampens her spirits, though, as the first in a series of deliciously seasonal disasters begin. The second seasonal episode is on December 30.



Doctor Who faces his destiny on Christmas Day in Matt Smith's final appearance



Paul O'Grady explores the kennels of Battersea Dogs Home in a seasonal For the Love of Dogs special

THE PERFECT MORECAMBE & WISE SPECIAL (BBC Two, Christmas Eve)

There's no shortage of Morecambe & Wise on BBC Two this Christmas. It starts with this, and no matter how many times you see it, the Andre Previn piano concerto sketch (or

should we say, Andre Preview?) never fails to get a laugh.

Nor the send-ups of stars like Tom Jones, Shirley Bassey, and leggy Angela Rippon. And as for Des O'Connor . . . well this reminds us just what a good sport he was in the hands of the unpredictable duo.

MIDSOMER MURDERS

(ITV, Christmas Eve)
Yes, this little community doesn't get any safer. DCI Barnaby and his wife reveal they are soon to become parents, and all seems happy with the world.

But the festive mood is shattered when a man is stabbed

to death with an antique sword during a ghost-hunting party, and Barnaby and his new sidekick DS Charlie Nelson (Gwilym Lee) are soon thrown into a haunted house murder mystery. Look out for Les Dennis is a Santa suit.

FOR THE LOVE OF DOGS

(ITV, Christmas Day)
Paul O'Grady is back doing what he does best – struggling not to adopt every waif and stray he comes across at Battersea Dogs Home. For this seasonal episode, he meets a litter of German Shepherd puppies, and a terribly under-weight Great Dane called Faith.

Action from the soaps

Mischief, misery and misdemeanours . . . ah yes, it must by Christmas in soapland.

Vic on knife edae



The Carters take over the Queen Vic in EastEnders

EASTENDERS (BBC1)

EASTENDERS (BBCT)

Albert Square is not the most uplifting of places at the best of times, but December 25 always guarantees an extra helping of gloom.

There's no room at the inn this year for loved-upagain couple Kat and Alfie, who find themselves chucked out of the Queen Vic with the arrival of new landlord Mick Carter (Danny Dyer).

Meanwhile, round at the Jacksons' festive feast where Carol and David Wicks are snogging in the kitchen and getting all close and personal again (just like we always knew they would), Bianca brings a new meaning to pass the gravy; chucking a pot of the brown stuff over her boyfriend Terry's ex, Nikki, who has been goading her all day about the fact that she reckons Terry still has feelings for her.

The Beales and the Mitchells, Walford's perpetually-warring families, are forced to spend Christmas Day together thanks to Peter and Lola who announce they're an item. Ian Beale is sent on a mission to split them up by the ever-controlling Phil Mitchell.

But arguably the 'highlight' of the Christmas day drama is an attempted murder. With Janine poised to buy the Queen Vic after raising the £250,000 to meet Phil's asking price, her world falls apart when David reveals a recording he has of Janine confessing to Michael's murder and gives her an ultimatum: either she hands him the cash, or he's shopping her to the cops.

Kylie is suffering

(ITV)
There's not much sign of the season of goodwill either in Coronation either in Coronation Street. Bitter young mum Kylie goes on a festive drinking bender and ends up getting arrested, and spends Christmas Day sitting by the canal, wallowing in self-pity. Her double-crossing hubby David persuades her to come home for



Peter and Tina give in to their feelings in Corrie

her to double-bashing houtby David persuades her to come home for dinner, but it's hardly a recipe for harmony, and it's clear Kylie is spiralling out of control. Elsewhere, expect more tears with the developing storyline of cancer-ridden Hayley, spending a last Christmas with Roy. Having shown the stiffest of upper lips in recent weeks, she finally breaks down at a panto. Sophie spends Christmas Day helping out at a homeless shelter (because she's a good sort), and her mum Sally tags along with her (because she thinks it's the kind of thing that would impress the neighbours). The Christmas period will also usher in Steve McDonald's study buddy Andrea, played by former Dancing On Ice and Emmerdale star Hayley Tamaddon. It goes without saying that Michelle is instantly jealous. Peter Barlow and Tina McIntyre aren't up for reading in bed either . . . the former boozed-up bookie forgets the wedding vows he made to Carla days earlier, and gets steamy with soap's sexiest woman.

steamy with soap's sexiest woman

Peter's ex, Leanne, isn't having quite such a happy time, as she gets a Christmas Day punch for her troubles from messed-up hubby Nick.

Hangover from hell

EMMERDALE

(ITV) It's certainly going to be an explosive Christ-mas Day in the Dales, with Home Farm going



with Home Farm going up in flames.

With an empty bank account and a list of friends he can write on a postage stamp, bankrupt businessman Declan decides to end it all by setting fire to his home and go up in flames with his last few belongings.

As he broods on his suicide, Charity turns up – another woman not exactly a bundle of laughs either, what with Jai about to divorce her. She flirts with Declan to irritate her husband, and the pair head to Home Farm knowing they have the place to themselves - but things not up in a completely different way when Declar reaches for the paraffin, and Charity beats a hasty retreat.

Hearwhile, Alicia and David's wedding day finally arrives, but everything feels like it's going wrong. David has a dozen too many at his stag night and wakes up with a hangover from hell, feeling sick.

Thrills, spills and comedy to come

TV fans have been spoilt for choice this past year, but what will 2014 bring? Susan Griffin takes a sneak peek at some of the programmes we're sure to be tuning in to ...

THE NAME'S FLEMING

THE NAME'S FLEMING
Before James Bond's thrilling adventures hit the page or screen, they were experienced first-hand by lan Fleming. Sky Atlantic will show a four-part drama, starring Mamma Mia's Dominic Cooper as Fleming, based on his time as a naval intelligence officer. "Even if you're not a Bond fan, it's certainly compelling," says Cooper. "You see all those references and where the inspiration comes from." Fleming spent his formative years living in the shadow of his brother Peter (played by Rupert Evans) and under the disapproving eye of his mother (Lesley Manville), but everything changed when he was recruited in the fight against the Nazis. The series shows how his ability to spin a yarn made him a perfect fit for espionage, and in turn inspired him to create one of the most famous fictional heroes in history. heroes in history.



The Name's Fleming - based on the famous Bond author

ONE OF LIFE'S QUIRKES

Gabriel Byrne stars as the titular character in BBC One's new drama Quirke, based on the books by Benjamin Black (the pseudonym of the award-winning Irish writer John Banville) and adapted by acclaimed screenwriters Andrew Davies and Conor McPherson. It follows the Andrew Davies and Contin Michrelson. In follows the charismatic loner and chief pathologist in Dublin's city morgue as he uncovers the secrets of sudden death in the Fifties. Expect a world of smoky streets, damp alleys and bars that glimmer with peat fires in this atmospheric drama.



BBC One's new drama Quirke is based on the books by Benjamin Black

A NEW DRAMA IS BORN

A NEW DRAMA IS BORN
The Bafta-winning writer Kay Mellor (Band Of Gold, Fat Friends and The Syndicate) has penned a new six-part series for BBC One called In The Club. It follows six very different couples who bond at the local Parent Craft class in the last trimester of their pregnancies. Each have their own unique issues to deal with, from swollen feet and chronic wind to debt, divorce and death, in a drama about the changing nature of relationships a new baby brings.



The Smoke - Sky 1's high octane drama

NO SMOKE WITHOUT FIRE

From the pen of British writer Lucy Kirkwood (Skins) is Sky 1's The Smoke, a high-octane drama starring Jamie Bamber, of Law & Order fame, as a veteran fire fighter Bamber, of Law & Order fame, as a veteran fire fighter searching for justice, after the most traumatic call-out of his career causes him to question things. "I'd just finished a series in LA and wasn't really thinking of coming back to London, but there's a daring freshness in Lucy's writing that hooked me," reveals Bamber. Jodie Whittaker, last seen in Broadchurch, plays his girlfriend, Trish, who's striving to hold onto love against the odds, while Rhashan Stone plays his best mate Mal, whose loyalty is tested to the extreme.

Christmas Eve

BBC 1

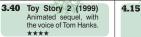


Edward is forced to make a confession in Holby City, 8.00pm

6.00 Breakfast 9.00 The Gruffalo 6.00 Breakfast 9.00 The Gruffalo (R) 9.30 A CBeebies Christmas Carol Adaptation of the Charles Dickens novel. 10.10 Sarah & Duck: Christmas Special 10.20 FILM: The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause (2006) Christmas fantasy comedy sequel, starring Tim Alien. ★★ 11.45 Only Fools and Horses Part two of two. The Trotters arrive in America. (R) 1.10 BBC News 1.20 Recional News: BBC News 1.20 Regional News: Weather. 1.30 FILM: The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (2005) Four children discover a secret entrance to a mystical land that an evil witch has cursed with perpetual winter. Fantasy adventure, starring Tilda Swinton and Georgie Henlev.. ***

View

Early



Shrek the Halls Festive animated short, starring the lovable ogre. (R)

BBC News Midlands

Veather.

Finding Nemo
(2003) Animated
adventure, with the
voices of Albert Brooks and Ellen DeGeneres

EastEnders A defiant David resists Janine's plea to drop his blackmail plan. and Joey is optimistic as Alice's hearing arrives. Alfie and Kat bid an emotional

farewell to the Queen Vic. Holby City Edward is forced to make a confession about Mary-8.00 Claire. Zosia is determined not to let her father back into her life, and Mo tries to pluck up the courage to ask Mr Thompson out.

Last Tango in Halifax
Gillian worries about the
fallout from her confession 9.00 and Kate is rushed to hospital. Caroline's emotions are in turmoil as Celia and Alan's wedding day dawns. Last in the

Not Going Out Christmas Special Lee invites Lucy and her parents to join him and 10.00 Not Daisy to spend Christmas in a cosy old country house that used to belong to his aunt - but they soon sense

a spooky presence.

10.45 O u t n u m b e r e d Christmas special from 2012. The Brockmans throw a party, but Karen is too busy chatting online, Jake has fallen in with a bad crowd and the less said about the guests the better; (R) National Lottery

.30 BBC News; Weath 11.45 Westminster Abbey: The First Eucharist of Christmas Live service from Westminster Abbey in London, led by the Very Rev John Hall. Carols include O Come, All Ye Faithful, Hark! The Herald Angels Sing and O Little Town of Bethlehem.

8

4

1.05 FILM: Protocol (1984)
Comedy, with Goldie Hawn and
Chris Sarandon. *** 2.35
Weatherview 2.40 BBC News



Jo Brand Phill Jupitus and Brendan O'Carroll feature in QI XL, 9.00pm

6.00 This Is BBC 2 6.50 Natural World: Animal House (R) 7.50 FILM: Herbie Rides Again (1974) Disney comedy sequel, starring
Helen Hayes. *** 9.15
Westminster Abbey The choir prepares to sing at a papal Mass in St Peter's Basilica, Rome, (R) 10.15 FII M: An American in Paris (1951) Romantic musical, starring Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron. ****
12.05 FILM: Splash! (1984) Romantic fantasy comedy, with Tom Hanks and Daryl Hannah. ★★★
1.50 FILM: Guys and Dolls (1955)
A gambler tries to win the heart of a Salvation Army member, while his friend searches for somewhere to hold an illegal dice game. Musical, with Frank Sinatra and Marlon

4.15 Fantasia (1940) anthology, set famous pieces classical music. ★★

6.15 Carols from King's Music and readings from the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge, the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge, including the carols Once in Royal David's City, O Little Town of Bethlehem and God Rest Ye Merry, Cantlemen Gentlemen.

Perfect 7.30 The Morecambe & Wise Christmas Special A selection of classic clips from the duo's festive BBC specials, including Angela Rippon coming out from behind the news desk and Andre Previn being shown

how to play Grieg.
Victoria Wood's
Midlife Christmas A
festive special from 2009 8.00 that attempts to cram a night's Christmas viewing into an hour. Highlights include the Midlife Olympics 2009, popular costume drama Lark Pies to Cranchesterford and the adventures of soap star Bo

Beaumont. (R)

QI XL Stephen Fry hosts a
festive edition of the
comedy quiz, with Jo
Brand, Phill Jupitus, 9.00 Brendan O'Carroll and Alan Davies answering questions on the theme of Kris Krinale

Mel Smith: I've Sort of 9.45 **Done Things** A celebration of the life and career of the actor, writer career of the actor, writer and director, who died in July at the age of 60. With contributions by Griff Rhys Jones, John Lloyd and Richard Curtis.

10.45 Comedy Connections
The story of how Mel Smith
and Griff Rhys Jones collaborated to create one of the most successful and influential partnerships in

comedy history. (R)

The Awakening 11.25 The (2011) An investigator of supernatural hoaxes has her sceptical beliefs challenged when she is summoned to a haunting at a boarding school. Horror, starring Rebecca Hall and Dominic West. ***

1.05 FILM: The Spiral Staircase (1945) Period thriller, starring Dorothy McGuire. (b/w) *** 2.30 This Is BBC 2



Priya tells David to call off the wedding in Emmerdale, 7.00pm

6.00 Daybreak 8.30 Lorraine 9.25 6.00 Daybreak 8.30 Lorraine 9.25 FILM: The Christmas Takeover (1998) A cold-hearted toy tycoon goes to the North Pole to drive Santa out of business, only to have a crisis of conscience. Comedy drama, starring Harry Hamlin and William Hootkins. ** 11.30 Catchphrase Revival of the game Show, hosted by Stephen Mulhern.

(R) 12.15 ITV News and Weather
12.30 Let's Do Christmas with
Gino & Mel With singer Billy Ocean.
Last in the series. 1.30 Steppin' Out with Katherine Jenkins A cabaret show with the classical singer and celebrity guests. (R) 2.45 Gary Barlow: Journey to Afghanistan The X Factor judge performs a concert for British troops at Camp Bastion (B)

Fast Freddie, the Widow and Me Drama, starring Laurence Fox and Sarah Smart. (R)
The Nation's Favourite

Christmas Song A countdown of the top 20 festive tunes. (R)

6.45 7.00 Emmerdale An emotional Priya tells David she wants him to call off the wedding and be a proper family with her and the baby, Megan packs her bags to leave after Declan lashes out

again. You've Been Framed! 7.30 At Christmas Harry Hill narrates a festive and comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, featuring a kid wrestling a Christmas tree and the world's most terrifying

present.
Midsomer Murders New series. Return of the long-running detective drama, starring Neil Dudgeon. It's a time of joy and happiness in Midsomer for once – Christmas is coming, and DCI Barnaby and his wife Sarah (Fiona Dolman) are soon become parents. But the festive mood changes when a man is stabbed to death with an antique sword during a ghost-hunting party at a spooky manor house in Morton Shallows. Is blacksmith's daughter Rose Wilton seeking revenge from beyond the grave, or will Barnaby and new sidekick DS Charlie Nelson (Gwilym Lee) find a more earthly motive behind the murder? 10.00 ITV News at Ten and

Weather

10.15 Christmas Carols on ITV Aled Jones presents an evening of festive performances from St Michael the Archangel Church in the village of Church in the village of Kirkby Malham, North Yorkshire

11.15 Couples Retreat (2009) Four couples sign up for relationship therapy on a tropical island, but the treatment only serves to drive them apart. Comedy, starring Vince Vaughn, Malin Akerman and Jon

Favreau. ★★

1.15 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA

2.00 ITV Nightscreen 5.05 The
Jeremy Kyle Show (R)



Chris O'Dowd, The IT Crowd Special: The Internet Is Coming, 9.00pm

6.20 Wilde Stories Animated version of The Selfish Giant. (R) version of The Selfish Giant. (R) 6.50 Wilde Stories (R) 7.15 The Bear Animation based on the Raymond Briggs tale. (R) 7.26 FILM: The Nativity Story (2006) Biblical drama, starring Keisha Castle-Hughes *** 9.45 The Big Bang Theory Amy and Penny use Bernadette to spy on Leonard and Priya. (R) 10.15 The Big Bang Theory (R) 10.40 The Simpsons The family spends Christmas on a The family spends Christmas on a ranch. (R) 11.10 The Simpsons (R) 11.40 The Simpsons (R) 12.10 Deal or No Deal: Ideal Christmas Noel Edmonds hosts a festive themed edition. 1.10 FILM: It's a Wonderful Life (1946) Fantasy drama, starring James Stewart. (b/w) ****



Ashley Maddocks, Eddie Stobart: 12 Days of Christmas, 8.00pm

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Chinese Food in Minutes Oriental cooking.

(R) 10.05 The Dog Rescuers A Grimsby inspector finds two puppies locked in a dirty bathroom.

(R) 10.40 World's Strongest Man 2013: Qualifiers James Richardson presents action from the Giants Live Series event in Norway, which was the fourth qualifier for the World's Strongest Man heats. (R) 11.40 Strongest Man neats. (f) 11.40 Eddie Stobart's Christmas Cracker The truckers deliver a consignment of relindeer for a Christmas parade, (f) 12.40 FiLM: Clash of the Titans (1981) A hero of ancient Greece journeys into the underworld to save a princess from being sacrificed to a sea monster. Mythical adventure, starring Harry Hamlin and Laurence Olivier. ★★★

The Simpsons Featuring a parody of Michael Bay's Transformers. (R) Hollyoaks Grace urges

The Grinch (2000) Fantasy comedy, starring Jim Carrey.

Trevor to push ahead with his malicious plans for

Channel 4 News
4thought.tv How
Christmas is perceived by those who do not celebrate

Ice Age: A Mammoth Christmas Festive spin-off of the animated films. Sid the sloth tries to redeem himself after accidentally ruining one of Manny the

runing one of Manny the mammoth's Christmas traditions. (R)

The Snowman and the Snowdog Animated sequel to classic festive tale The Snowman, in which a boy's snowman and snowdog magically 7.30 and snowdog magically come to life and take him on an adventure to the

North Pole. (R)

Big Fat Gypsy
Weddings: Carols and Caravans Following the Christmas celebrations of the travelling community, including an escape to the sun in Tenerife, a festive 18th birthday party and a spectacular winter

wedding. (R)

The IT Crowd Special:
The Internet Is Coming
Roy and Jen's reputations
are put at risk in the final episode when an incident involving spilt coffee and a homeless person ends up on the internet. Comedy, starring Chris O'Dowd, Part of The IT Crowd Night, (R)

10.00 The IT Crowd Manual Behind the scenes of the

comedy.

11.05 The IT Crowd: The Fans' Favourite Fans' Favourite
Episode A people's
choice episode. (R)

11.35 The IT Crowd: The

Writer's Favourite Episode Graham Linehan's favourite chapter

Linehan's favourite chapter for the gang. (R)

12.10 The Inbetweeners (R) 12.40
The Inbetweeners (R) 1.10 The Inbetweeners (R) 1.35 The Inbetweeners (R) 2.05 FILM: Idiocracy (2006), ***3.25 90210
4.05 Suburgatory 4.30
Suburgatory 4.50 Suburgatory 5.15 A Place in the Sun: Winter

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels (1988) Comedy, starring Michael Caine and Steve Martin. *** 5.10

Scrooge – A Christmas Carol (1951) A hard-hearted skinflint is taught the error of his ways by a succession of spectral visitors. Adaptation of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, with Alastair Sim and Mervyn

Eddie Stobart: 12 Days Christmas compilation of the most memorable festive moments from the series following the haulage company, featuring workers battling the elements, the traffic and the Christmas rush; 5 News

Update The Muppets and Lady Gaga at Christmas The pop superstar joins forces with the furry gang of puppets an entertainment extravaganza, performing

seasonal favourites and her own hits. She sings duets with Kermit the Frog, musician Elton John, actor Joseph Gordon-Levitt and drag artist RuPaul, while Forgetting Sarah Marshall star Kristen Bell appears in a sketch alongside the Muppets and Lady Gaga:

Muppets and Lady Gaga; (R) 5 News at 9.

Greatest Ever Christmas Movies Countdown of the best festive films, from White Christmas and It's a Wonderful Life to Bad Santa and Elf. Gremlins tar Zech Galligan and 9.10 star Zach Galligan and Miracle on 34th Street's Mara Wilson talk about their experiences making their movies, while Aled Jones reveals that he hadn't even seen classic animation The Snowman until 10 years ago - despite having a hit in 1985 with a version of its famous song Walking in the Air, Featuring contributions by Ollie Locke, Stacey Solomon, Joe Swash and Eamonn Holmes.

12.05 Britain's Craziest Christmas Lights (R) 1.05 SuperCasino 3.05 Blackpool Lights 3.55 House Doctor (R) 4.20 House Doctor (R) 4.45 Great Artists (R) 5.10 Nick's Quest (R) 5.35 Wildlife SOS (R)

Best of the Box for 2014

Shameless star

plays TV legend

JUST LIKE THAT
Shameless star David Threlfall plays the legendary funny
man in a film for ITV called Tommy Cooper: Not Like That.
Like This. The script focuses on the dilemma that the

Like This. The script focuses on the dilemma that the much-loved comedian faced when he fell in love with assistant Mary Kay (Helen McCrory) and embarked upon a relationship that would last 17 years, despite being married to Gwen (Amanda Redman). It also reveals Cooper's working relationship with his dour agent, Miff Ferrie (Gregor Fisher), who managed his career until Cooper's shocking death in front of millions of television viewers during Live From Her Majesty's on April 15, 1984.

A-list actress Maggie Gyllenhaal plays the titular role in Bafta-winner Hugo Blick's (The Shadow Line) seven-part drama for BBC Two, called The Honourable Woman. "I couldn't put the scripts down. Nessa's such an exciting and intricate character," says Gyllenhaal of her role in the fast-paced thriller. Following the market of the District of the Statement of the

HOLLYWOOD'S HONOURABLE WOMAN

3.00 3.10

3.20

6.15

7.30

8.30

Christmas Day

and slaps Leanne in Coronation Street, 7.30pm

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Badou. (R) 6.10 Dino

annual address.

ITV News and Weather

Tangled (2010)
Disney animated comedy, with the voice

of Mandy Moore. ***
Paul O'Grady: For the
Love of Dogs at
Christmas The comedian

helps out at Battersea

Dogs & Cats Home over the festive period. Emmerdale Hour-long

episode, Alicia and David's

wedding day arrivbay and everything seems to be going wrong, while Charity

catches a drunken Declan

pouring petrol around his

ITV News and Weather Coronation Street Hour-long episode. Nick flies into a rage and slaps Leanne, Roy's hopes for a quiet Christmas with

Havley are dashed, and

Carla makes Peter an equal partner in Underworld.

Downton Abbey It's summer and as part of

Rose's debutante 'coming

out' she is to be presented at Buckingham Palace. The

family is in London, preparing Grantham House for the busy social programme, and Martha Levinson, not one to miss

such a grand occasion, arrives from New York with Cora's recently disgraced brother Harold (Sideways

star Paul Giamatti). Both

outspoken and larger than life, they make quite an impression on certain members of high society.

Meanwhile, when the Crawleys are implicated in a scandal that threatens to

engulf the monarchy,

Robert goes to great

lengths to protect the roya family – and his own. Last ir

the series.

Curtis's

10.30 ITV News and Weather 10.45 Love Actually

(2003) Interlinked tales of several people in

search of love. Richard

Curtis's romantic

Grant, Martine
McCutcheon, Emma
Thompson, Colin Firth,
Bill Nighy and Liam
Neeson. ***

1.10 Christmas Carols on ITV (R)

2.10 FILM: Closing the Ring (2007) Drama, starring Shirley MacLaine. *** 4.05 ITV Nightscreen

Martine



Michael McIntyre's nowtime, from the 02 in London, 10.05pm

6.00 Breakfast Headlines and business news. 9.00 The Gruffalo's Child Animated sequel, with the voice of Robbie Coltrane. (R) 9.25 The Madagascar Penguins in a Christmas Caper (R) 9.40 Old Jack's Boat: The Christmas Quest Jack's search for three Christmas gifts. 10.00 Christmas Day: Live from Westminster Abbey from Westminster Abbey
Traditional morning service. 11.00
FILM: Chicken Run (2000)
Animated comedy, with the voices the Pops Christmas The year's most successful chart acts.

The Queen BBC News; W

compete Call t

Toy Story 3 (2010) Premiere. Animated adventure, with the voices of Tom Hanks

and Tim Allen, ****

Strictly Come Dancing Christmas Special Six Strictly newcomers

Christmas Special Preparations for Shelagh's

wedding are rudely interrupted by the

interrupted by the discovery of an unexploded bomb, forcing the residents

to pull together as they are

Doctor Who Matt Smith

makes his final appearance as the Doctor, who joins

some of the universe's

deadliest alien species drawn to a mysterious message emanating from a

EastEnders Bianca is put

out when Nikki arrives at her house on Christmas

Day, while David and Carol

get closer – but Janine looks set to ruin things. Mrs Brown's Boys Christmas Special The

first of two festive editions

Mrs Brown tries to find out what her grandson wants for Christmas and loses her

temper at the family games

night when no one plays by

Showtime Stand-up

comedy performed at the O2 in London during his 10-night run in 2012, featuring stories about a

horrific trip to the dentist and watching his wife get undressed.

1.05 BBC News; Weather. 11.05 BBC News; Weather. 11.20 On Christmas Night

Actor Patrice Najaml reads from the Gospel of St Matthew, followed by the

Sussex Carol performed by

the Choir of King's College

Christmas, and vicar Geraldine learns there is a heavy price to be paid for festive kindness when she

celebrate

Cambridge.

11.25 The Vicar of Dibley The

agrees to attend three slap-up lunches; (R) National Lottery Update 12.10 Would I Lie to You? At

Christmas (R) 12.40 FILM: Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy (2004) *** 2.15 Weatherview 2.20 BBC News

villagers

10.05 Michael McIntyre's

evacuated to safety.

backwater planet.

the Midwife:



Actor Mark Gatiss presents MR James: Ghost Writer, 10.05pm

6.00 This Is BBC 2 6.20 Natural World: The Real Jungle Book Bear India's sloth bear, the inspiration for The Jungle Book's Baloo. (R) 7.20 FILM: Herbie Goes Bananas (1980) Disney adventure, starring Cloris Leachman. ** 8.50 FILM: The Red Shoes (1948) Oscarwinning drama, with Moira Shearer **** 11.00 Carols from King's Music and readings from the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge. (R) 12.15 Music of the Monarchy with David Starkey A selection of full-length royal classics. 1.20 Swingin' Christmas Festive music by the John Wilson Orchestra. (R) 2.45 The Perfect Morecambe & Wise Christmas Special A selection of classic clips from the duo's festive BBC specials. (R)



Christmas (R) 2.00 River Deep Mountain High: James Nesbitt in New Zealand James Nesbitt travels from the tip of the North Island down 3.15 Doctor Who at the Proms Highlights of the The Queen Her Majesty's

5.15

music from the sci-fi series An Adventure in Space and Time Drama about the creation of Doctor Who,

concert featuring

2013

starring David Bradley. (R) Sign Zone: The Queen

Her Majesty's annual address to the nation and the Commonwealth. (R)

Matthew Bourne's Sleeping Beauty A performance of Tchaikovsky's ballet by the New Adventures dance company, reimagined by Matthew Bourne as a supernatural love story featuring vampires, fairies

and gothic opulence.
Christmas Night with the Two Ronnies The comedy duo perform songs and sketches in a Christmas special from 1987, featuring a guest appearance by Charlton Heston and music by Elton

John. (R) Morecambe & Wise: Leading Ladies Penelope Keith presents a 8.30 compilation of highlights from the comedy shows featuring appearances by female

stars of stage and screen 9.30 The Tractate Middoth Terrifying spirits are summoned to a library after two men search for an obscure Hebrew text. Mark Gatiss's adaptation of MR James's tale, starring Sacha Dhawan and John

Castle.

MR James: Ghost
Writer Actor and writer
Mark Gatiss examines the 10.05 MR life and career of author MR James, attempting to uncover the inspirations behind his stories of the

supernatural.

11.05 QI XL Stephen Fry presents a festive special from 2010, as Daniel Radcliffe, Graham Norton, Lee Mack and regular Alan Davies answer questions on the theme of hocus

pocus. (R)

11.50 Hebburn Sarah flies in to Hebburn for Christmas from Switzerland with Jack, and her parents and miserable grandmother head up north too. Last in the series. (R)

12.20 FILM: Dead Poets Society (1989) *** 2.25 This Is BBC 2



David Dickinson, Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special, 9.30pm

6.10 Ivor the Invisible (R) 6.35 6-10 IVOT the Invisible (H) 6.35 Prep & Landling (R) 7.00 Famous Fred (R) 7.25 Little Wolf's Book of Badness (R) 7.55 Olive, the Other Reindeer (R) 8.50 FILM: James and the Giant Peach (1996) *** 10.25 FILM: Horton Hears a Who! (2008) ★★★ 12.05 The Big Bang Theory Bernadette receives her PhD. (R) 12.35 The Big Bang Theory Sheldon re-evaluates the time he spends with Amy. 1.05 The Simpsons Homer plays Santa, (R) Simpsons Homer plays Santa. (H)

1.40 The Snowman Animated adventure, based on Raymond Briggs' festive tale. (R)

2.10 The Snowman and the Snowdog Animated sequel to classic festive tale The Snowman. (R) 2.45 The Simpsons Bart destroys the family's Christmas presents. (R)

Deal or No Deal: Ideal Christmas Noe Edmonds hosts a festive Noel

themed edition.

The Alternative
Christmas Message Another famous face delivers an alternative to the Queen's speech.

Channel 4 News

4thought.tv

How Christmas is perceived by those who do not celebrate

it.
The Muppet
Christmas Carol
(1992) Puppet
comedy, starring 4.35 The 6.15

Comedy, starring
Michael Caine. ***
Home Alone 2: Lost
in New York (1992) A
boy ends up stranded in
the Big Apple – where he bumps into two familiar burglars with an axe to grind. Comedy sequel, starring Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern

Bear's Wild Weekend with Stephen Fry Bear Grylls takes the QL host on an expedition to the Italian Dolomites, setting him a series of challenges, from travelling on the skids of a

helicopter to descending a waterfall. Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special The comedian hosts a show filled with festive fun and frolics, joined by Russell Brand, Davina McCall and David Dickinson, Little Mix perform their new single.
Last in the series.

10.35 Man Down Christmas

Special Scrooge 3000 - a festive school play set in space - and a terrifying yuletide tradition are just two of the Christmas challenges that risk reducing Dan's life to a

crumbling mess.

11.05 Father Ted Christmas Special Fathers Ted and Dougal endure their worst Christmas ever when they get lost in a lingerie department, leaving them in a highly embarrassing predicament. Festive edition from 1996. (R)

edition from 1996. (R)
12.15 Father Ted (R) 12.50 Father
Ted (R) 1.20 Father Ted (R) 1.45
Father Ted (R) 2.15 Father Ted (R)
2.40 Father Ted (R) 2.05 FILM: A
Matter of Life and Death (1946)
**** 4.50 90210 5.30
Suburgatory 5.55 Prep & Landing:
Naughty v Nice (R)

Сн5



Noddy Holder narrates Britain's Craziest Christmas Lights, 7.30pm

6.00 Milkshake! 8.05 FILM: Scrooge (1970) A miserly man is taught the error of his ways by a host of spectral visitors. Musica adaptation of Charles Dickens' A
Christmas Carol, starring Albert
Finney and Alec Guinness. *** 10.15 FILM: Gone with the Wind (1939) A plantation heiress has a (1939) A plantation heiress has a trumultuous relationship with a roguish Southern gentleman during the American Civil War. Epic comantic drama, starring Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable. ****2.35 FILM: Casablanca (1942) The owner of a Moroccan nightclub is reunited with an old flame who peads his halp to escape the needs his help to escape the country. Romantic drama, starring Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergmar and Claude Rains. (b/w) ★★★★

Christmas Countdown of the best festive films, from It's a Wonderful Life to Bad Santa. Featuring Santa. Featuring contributions by Gremlins star Zach Galligan and Miracle on 34th Street's Mara Wilson. (R)
Britain's Craziest

Christmas Lights Former Slade frontman Noddy Holder narrates a documentary following four households as they turn their homes into electric winter wonderlands with extensive displays of festive illuminations. For these Christmas obsessives, who include Dave and Carol Edwards, putting up the lights involves a head for heights, DIY wiring skills and an unshakable resolve, with some inspired by the bling of Blackpool while others aim for the ambitious scale of a West End show. (R) Eddie Stobart: 12 Days

of Christmas compilation of the most memorable festive moments from the series following the day-to day work of the haulage company that has road, rail and air divisions. programme features 12 of the best tales of the firm's employees as they battle the elements, the traffic and the crazy Christmas rush to make sure their deliveries are on time. (R) Michael Jackson's This Is It (2009)

Premiere. Documentary following the singer rehearsing for his planned 50 shows at London's O2, before his death in June 2009. Featuring interviews with Jackson and performances of classic hits including Billy Jean and Wanna Be Startin'

Something, ***

11.40 Greatest Christmas TV Moments Countdown of 50 festive TV highlights, featuring Gavin & Stacey, Morecambe and Wise, Only Fools and Horses, Wallace and Gromit, Doctor Who, Top of the Pops and The Royle Family. (R)

2.35 SuperCasino 3.55 House Doctor (R) 4.20 House Doctor (R) 4.45 Great Artists (R) 5.10 Nick's Quest (R) 5.35 Wildlife SOS (R)





BBC Two's seven-part drama The Honourable Woman

A NEW YORK STATE OF MIND
Rev's Tom Hollander stars as Dylan Thomas in BBC
Two's A Poet In New York, which explores how the Welsh
writer wound up dead in the Big Apple in 1953, aged only
39. He was en route to Hollywood to write an opera, but
first needed to fulfil a commitment to take part in a production at the prestigious Poetry Centre in Manhattan.
What might have been a triumph turned into a requient
for a man whose life had spiralled out of control. "Thomas
was a great poet, whose blazing life and premature death
left both a considerable poetic legacy and an enduring
reputation for bad behaviour," says Hollander. "He was
also quite fat. Playing him is both a wonderful acting challenge and a great opportunity to eat things that I would
normally have to avoid."



Dominic Cooper as Fleming and Lara Pulver as Anna

FLAMING GLORY

FLAMING GLORY
Political Editor-turned-novelist Tom Bradby's written a new four-part period drama for ITV called The Great Fire Of London. Set over four days in 1666, the story follows the lives and loves of both historical and fictional characters in a world where, on the surface, the rich have everything and the poor have nothing. From the humble baker Thomas Farriner and his family, to the ambitious Samuel Pepys and King Charles II, the characters' stories interweave as the city, and their lives, are changed beyond imagination during one of our nation's greatest historical disasters.

A MODERN TWIST ON THE MAKEOVER

Katie Piper, who was scarred in a horrific acid attack in 2008 and has been campaigning for burns victims ever since, fronts a new show called Undo Me for Channel 4. since, fronts a new show called Undo Me for Channel 4. In the series, she questions the nation's growing obsession with body modification, from tattoos and breast implants to permanent make-up and fillers, asking what motivates people to tamper with their bodies, while helping those looking to 'undo' the work they've had done. Given what the presenter and num-to-be has been through, it'll be interesting to see how the programme's subject matter is handled.

SIMM TARGETS NEW ROLE
Life On Mars actor John Simm heads to Manchester to
play the lead in a new three-part action thriller for ITV
called Prey. Simm stars as Detective Constable Marcus
Farrow, a well-liked copper with a wife and two kids,
whose life is turned upside down when he's found at the
scene of a brutal crime. Forced on the run when all the
evidence suggests he's the perpetrator, it's a race against
time to clear his name and uncover the truth.

Prime Time

Festive TV guide

So, no shirting around for Rhys

It takes a brave man to step into Darcy's breeches after Colin Firth's unforgettable interpretation. But Welshman Matthew Rhys is up for the challenge, he tells Susan Griffin – though he's preparing for a ribbing when he heads home for Christmas

If Matthew Rhys didn't appreciate the effect a particular sartorial choice might have in the past, then he certainly does now. The item in question is the billowing white shirt he wears for his role as the iconic Mr Darcy. "I've been quite surprised with the sort of reaction it gets," says the cheeky Welshman, sitting in the magnificent grounds of York Minster, one of the historical locations used while filming the period drama. "Everyone loves the shirts. They go, 'Oh, romance. Take me away, dream man!"

Take me away, dream man!"

That said, the actor's all too aware that many people relate Darcy to Colin Firth's memorable interpretation (notably, that emergence from the lake) in the Nineties TV adaptation of Pride And Prejudice.



Matthew Rhys as the iconic Mr Darcy

"I've noticed quite quickly that people go, 'Are you playing Colin Firth?'" jokes the 39-year-old. "And everyone asks about the lake and the shirts and you say: 'I'm not doing that!'"

one asks about the lake and the shirts and you say: 'I'm not doing that!"
He is, in fact, playing Darcy in Death Comes To Pemberley, a small-screen adaptation of PD James's best-selling novel, which is set a few years after Jane Austen's Pride And Prejudice.
Darcy and Elizabeth (Anna Maxwell Martin) have been married for six years and are parents to two boys, but the peace of their magnificent home, Pemberley, is shattered with the arrival of Elizabeth's sister Lydia (Doctor Who's Jenna Coleman).

She appears screaming that her husband George Wilds Wickham (John Goode) has been murdered and, as the family becomes caught up in the ensuing investigation, a web of secrets and deceit threatens to encompass all that the Darcys have built.



Matthew Goode as Wickham, Matthew Rhysas Darcy, Amnna Maxwell-Martin as Elizabeth Darcy and Jenna-Louise Coleman as Lydia Wickham.

"He's a very different Darcy, so in that respect the comparisons [to Firth] can't be held up. I'm safe, they can't judge me!" says Rhys, laughing.
"But when a murder happens and Darcy's world's turned upside-down again, very old themes from Pride And Prejudice come back to haunt him, such as concern for his lineage and good name."

He read Jane Austen's classic novel in preparation. It provides the foundation for his character, even if Darcy has softened from the rude, arrogant man originally depicted.

provides the foundation for his character, even if Darcy has softened from the rude, arrogant man originally depicted.

"think he's a very sensitive man, a very layered bloke." Much like himself?

"Oh yes, we're both moody, misunderstood, complex, not too bright and good in a shirt," says Rhys, grinning. A greater challenge than tearing women's eyes away from his exposed chest, though, was mastering the accent. "It's harder for me to play a posh English man than it is an American, because I sound so thick. I'm sure I'm in for a bit of a sledging for this one."

His family already find it hysterical that he's playing one of literature's brooding figures, he admits. "Here's this great upper-class gent with great decorum and pheasants, and I'm still the oink to them."

Rhys's self-deprecating humour belies his skills. This is someone who trained at RADA, earned critical acclaim in roles such as Dylan Thomas in The Edge Of Love and has forged a successful career in the US.

"It's great with The Americans as we shoot for six months, so I have half a year to come back and do something here, as I miss home enormously," Rhys admits. "I'd forgotten what it's like to work with British actors and the relentless banter, it's very comforting.

"So as terrifying as it is playing Darcy, there are many elements of this job that are like putting on an old jumper."

jumper."

Death Comes To Pemberley begins on BBC One

Boxing

Day

BBC 2



Landlord Mick makes his presence felt in EastEnders, 7.15pm

6.00 Breakfast Headlines and business news. 9.00 Room on the Broom (R) 9.25 Mouse and Mole at Christmas Time Snowmole takes Mouse to a land where all of his wishes come true. 9.55 FILM: 101 Dalmatians (1996) Disney comedy adventure remake, starring Glenn Close. ★★★ 11.30 FILM: Flushed Away (2006) Animated adventure, featuring the voice of Hugh Jackman. *** 12.50 BBC News 1.00 Regional News; News 1.00 Hegional News; Weather 1.05 FILM: Wallace & Gromit in The Curse of the Were-Rabbit (2005) Oscar-winning animated adventure, with the voice of Peter Sallis. *** 2.25 FILM: Alice in Wonderland (2010)
Fantasy adventure, starring Mia
Wasikowska. **

4.05 Cars 2 (2011) Premiere. Animated

5.45 BBC News 6.00 Midlands

6.05

8.15

9.20

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adventure sequel, with the voice of Owen

Gangsta Granny Family

comedy based on David Walliams' book about a

law-breaking OAP who takes her bored grandson on a crime spree. Julia McKenzie, Joanna Lumley

Lauren and Jake togethe

David Jason returns as Granville in this one-off special of Roy Clarke's

popular comedy, now

popular comedy, now running the shop with his son after inheriting the business from Arkwright. Death Comes to Pemberley New series. Anna Maxwell Martin, Matthew Rhys and Jerina. Coleman star in this seriorial

Coleman star in this sequel

to Pride and Prejudice, adapted from the best-

selling novel by PD James which brings Jane Austen's

world back to life in a highly

original way – with a murde mystery plot at its centre Continues tomorrow.

Len Goodman's Perfect Christmas

Strictly Come Dancing judge Len Goodman takes

a trip through the TV

Lineker introduces highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Manchester City v Liverpool and Hull City v

this year's editions, revisiting how Paul Merton, lan Hislop and a variety of guests took on the big

news stories of 2013. Last

in the series 12.40 Skiing Weatherview 12.45

BBC News

Manchester United 11.55 Have I Got a Bit More
2013 News for You
Extended highlights from
this year's editions,

archives, choosing a series of small-screen clips to demonstrate his idea of the perfect Christmas Day.

10.15 Regional 10.25 Match of the Day Gary

and Rob Brydon star

7.15 EastEnders Phil is in for a surprise when new Vic landlord Mick makes his presence felt. Max finds

and Joey gets bad news from the prison.

7.45 Still Open All Hours

Today:

8

Early



Operation Snow Tiger Part two of two. Liz Bonnin

searches for a tiger that has

Ben Fogle, Ben & James Versus the Arabian

Desert on at 9.15pm

6.00 This Is BBC 2 Preview of

upcoming programmes. 6.05

Natural World The devastating
power of the African driver ant. (R)

6.50 FILM: Herbie Goes to Monte Carlo (1977) Disney comedy adventure sequel, starring Dean Jones. *** 8.35 Westminster

Abbey The new intake of pupils talk

about their lives at the choir school. Last in the series. (R) 9.35 Earthflight Bird's-eye view of the natural world. (R) 10.35 Pride &

Prejudice: Having a Ball A team of

gone missing. (R)

Final Score A round-up 4.00 of this afternoon's football

sults. 5.15 You Have Been Watching - David Croft A tribute to the TV comedy

Dad's Army (1971)
The Home Guard soldiers are put on their mettle as they get ready to capture three German aviators. British comedy based on the TV series, starring Arthur Lowe and John Le Mesurier

7.45 Christmas University Challenge Alumin from the colleges of Gonville & Caius, Cambridge, and Christ Church, Oxford, compete, with Andrew Graham-Dixon and Michael Dobbs among

contestants.

Idris Elba - King of Speed Part one of two. Documentary in which the Luther star embarks on an international journey to explore the history of car racing while sampling the thrill of competition vehicles.

Ben & James Versus

the Arabian Desert Part one of two. Four years after On Thin Ice – their Antarctic expedition for BBC Two – James Cracknell and Ben Fogle reunite to attempt an unguided crossing of a portion of the Rub' al Khali desert – also known as the Empty Quarter The duo are following in the footsteps of British explorer Thesiger travelled extensively in the region between 1945 and 1949 and earned the nickname of Mubarak bin London from the Bedouin

10.15 King Arthur (2004) A Roman commander in fifth-century Britain comes to realise his true destiny is to lead the people against Saxon invaders. Adventure, starring Clive Owen and Keira Knightley. ** 12.10 FILM: Dracula (1958)

Hammerhorror, starring Christopher Lee. *** 1.30 FILM: Sign Zone: Jane Eyre (2011) Period drama, starring Mia Wasikowska. ★★★ 3.20 This Is BBC 2



Keith Lemon hosts hrough the Christma Keyhole, 11.20pm

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Badou. (R) 6.10 Dino Dan (R) 6.25 Dino Dan (R) 6.40 Sooty (R) 6.50 Bookaboo 7.05 Horrid Henry (R) 7.20 Almost Naked Animals (R) 7.55 Bottom Knocker Street 8.10 Bottom Knocker Street 8.25 Dinner Date
David from Essex chooses three blind dates from five potential partners. Narrated by Charlotte Hudson. 9.25 FILM: Problem Child (1990) Comedy, starring John Ritter. ★ 11.00 FILM: The Flintstones (1994) Live-action Filintstones (1994) Live-action version of the cartoon comedy, with John Goodman. ** 12.45 ITV News and Weather 1.05 FILM: Casper (1995) Family comedy starring Christina Ricci. ***

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 - Behind the Magic

Ben Shephard interviews the stars of the film. (R) Off Their Rockers A pensioner's wheelchair is stolen. Last in the series

(R) The Nation's Favourite Elvis Song A countdown of the King's 20 greatest hits, as voted for by the public, featuring contributions by stars he influenced and an interview

with his ex-wife Priscilla Presley. (R) ITV News and Weather Emmerdale Hour-long episode. At Home Farm, the fire is raging and Charity tries to get Declan to leave. Eventually, they flee the grounds, but Megan rushes inside – and becomes trapped.

7.15 Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (2010) Premiere. The dark lord Voldemort rises ultimate power over the magical world, so the teenage wizard and his friends set out on a mission to find the magical horcruxes – artefacts containing parts of the evil wizard's soul that hold the key to destroying him. The first half of the two-part conclusion to the fantasy saga, starring Daniel Radcliffe, Ralph Fiennes, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint. ***

10.05 I Am Britney Jean:
Britney Spears in Las
Vegas Documentary
following the pop star as she prepares for her performance residency in Las Vegas, revealing how she handles the pressures that come with the next

chapter of her career.

11.05 ITV News and Weather

11.20 Through the Christmas
Keyhole Keith Lemon returns with a festive rummage through the homes of three mystery celebrities, challenging regular panellist Dave Berry and guests to guess their identities. (R) FILM: The Affair of the

Necklace (2001) Period drama starring Hilary Swank. * 2.20 FILM: Inland Empire (2006) Mystery drama, starring Laura Dern. *** 5.20 ITV Nightscreen

Сн4

medians Christmas Special, 4.35pm

6.15 FILM: Mysterious Island

6.15 FILM: Mysterious Island (1961) Sci-fi adventure, starring Michael Craig. *** 8.00 Morning Line A look ahead to today's meeting at Kempton Park. 9.00 Frasier Part two of two. Niles is suspected of being an accomplice to murder. (R) 9.30 Frasier Litth and Frasier are set up on a blind date. (R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory Howard gets caught in a strange argument. (R) 10.30 FILM: The King and I (1956) Oscarwinning musical, starring Yul

winning musical, starring Yul
Brynner and Deborah Kerr. ***

1.05 Channel 4 Racing Clare
Balding and Nick Luck present live

coverage of five races from Kempton Park and Wetherby, including the 3.10 King George VI

including the 3.10 King George



Laurence Shahlaei, World's Strongest Ma 2013 on at 8.15pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.45 World's Strongest Man 2013: Qualifiers (R) 10.45 Eddie Stobart: 12 Days of Christmas The haulage company's most memorable festive moments. (R) 11.45 World's Most Pampered Pets Documentary about people who spoil their pets 12.45 FILM: High Society (1956) Complications arise when a playboy composer tries to stop his ex-wife from marrying another man. Romantic musical comedy, starring Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra.

*** 2.55 FiLM: Meet Me in St
Louis (1944) A close-knit family is worried that a prospective move to New York will mean missing out on the 1904 World's Fair Musical starring Judy Garland, Tom Drake and Margaret O'Brien. ***

Deal or No Deal: Ideal Christmas Noel Edmonds hosts a festive

themed edition.
Come Dine with Me:
Comedians Christmas Special Sean Hughes, Gina Yashere, Paul Tonkinson and Duncan

Norvelle compete. (R)

Hollyoaks The Roscoes have more than one reason to celebrate as Christmas Day arrives. Fraser worries when Grace goes missing, and plans are put into action to steal Mercedes' new fortune.

Channel 4 News

4thought.tv How Christmas is perceived by those who do not celebrate

Independence Day 6.20 (1996) A fleet of huge flying saucers launches a devastating and unprovoked attack on Earth. As survivors try to flee the seemingly unstoppable alien invaders. courageous US president, an ace pilot and a computer genius come up with a plan to take the fight to the enemy and save the human race. Roland Emmerich's sci-fi adventure, starring Will Smith, Bill Pullman, Jeff Goldblum, Mary McDonnell, Randy Quaid and Connick Jr. *** Quaid Harry

Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2013 Jimmy Carr poses questions about the major events of the year to Jack Whitehall, Jonathan Ross, Dara O Briain, Kristen Schaal, Noel Fielding and

Richard Ayoade.

11.05 Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special The comedian hosts a show filled with festive fun and frolics, joined by actor and comedian Russell Brand, presenters Davina McCall and David Dickinson, and girl group Little Mix, who perform their new single Little Me. Last in the series.

12.10 FILM: Machete (2010) Action thriller, starring Danny Trejo.

*** 2.00 FILM: Legend (1985) Fantasy adventure, with Tom Cruise. ** 3.35 A Place in the Cruise. Sun: Winter Sun (R) 4.35 Secret Removers 5.30 Suburgatory 5.55 Suburgatory The Wizard of Oz (1939) A tornado whisks a girl off to a magical land where she embarks on a journey in search of the wizard who knows the way home. Musical fantasy, with Judy Garland and

Ray Bolger. ★★★★
Michael Buble's 7.15 Christmas Special The Grammy-winning Canadian crooner performs classic festive songs in his third annual Christmas special, with soul and R'n'B singer Mary J Blige joining him on numbers including Run, Run Rudolph

8.15 World's Strongest Man 2013 James Richardson presents action from the opening heat from Haitang Bay in Sanya, China, where the top two of six competitors would progress to the final. Britain's Strongest Man Laurence Shahlaei was among those involved. allong with American duo Robert Oberst and Nick Best, with disciplines including the Truck Pull and the Atlas Stones.

9.15

Britain's Favourite Christmas Songs A countdown of popular songs that are guaranteed to make any Christmas party go with a swing. Highlights include the Jackson 5's Santa Claus Is Coming to Town, Greg Lake's I Believe in Father Christmas, the Waitresses' Christmas Wrapping and the Pogues and Kirsty MacColl's Fairytale of New York. Is Mud's Lonely This Christmas past its sell-by date? Will Jona Lewie ever Stop the Cavalry? And where would any Christmas party be without Slade and their classic anthem Merry Xmas Everybody? But which one will top the nation's festive chart? Featuring contributions by artists, producers, video directors, composers and journalists, who shed light on the creation of the songs and their accompanying videos. (R)

12.10 Michael Buble's Christmas Special (R) 1.10 SuperCasino 3.05 Blackpool Lights 3.55 House Doctor (R) 4.20 House Doctor (R) 4.45 Great Artists (R) 5.10 Nick's Quest (R) 5.35 Wildlife SOS (R)

Stresses of Christmas

for a well-earned rest.

Did you buy right presents this time?

With Christmas Day almost upon us, have you got your present shopping all wrapped up? Or are you panicking you haven't bought enough? Vicky Shaw reports on the dangerous phenomenon of

So, you've traipsed round the shops, scoured the internet and, after stocking up on Christmas gifts for family and friends, you're now putting your feet up

But just as you bite into that mince pie and take the first sip of that mulled wine, doubts start popping

Friday 27 December





6.00 Breakfast 8.20 Match of the Day (R) 9.50 FILM: 102 Dalmatians (2000) Disney family adventure sequel, starring Glenn Close. ***
11.25 FILM: Bedtime Stories (2008) Fantasy comedy, starring
Adam Sandler. *** 1.00 BBC
News; Weather. 1.15 Regional
News; Weather. 1.25 Open All Hours: A Celebration The enduring appeal of the classic comedy. 1.55
Len Goodman's Perfect
Christmas Festive TV clips chosen by the Strictly judge. (R) 2.35 FILM: by the Strictly Judge. (H) 2:35 FLIM: Enchanted (2007) A fairy-tale princess is magically transported from her cartoon world to modern-day New York. Part-animated fantasy comedy, starring Amy Adams, James Marsden and Susan Sarandon

4.10 Megamind (2010) Premiere. Animated

Premiere. Animated superhero comedy, with the voice of Will Ferrell.

BBC News; Weather. Midlands Today;

Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (2008)

The globe-trotting archaeologist races against Soviet agents to find a mysterious artefact of untold power.

Harrison Ford and Cate

EastEnders Linda is livid with Mick for letting his sisters move into the Vic, sisters move into the Vic, and bonds with Sharon

over their mutual dislike of

Shirley. Peter finds the money Cindy stole from

owner's friends accuse her of being immature so she sets out to prove them

wrong - first by looking after a toddler, then by

after a toddler, then by hosting a grown-up dinner party. (R)

Death Comes to Pemberley Darcy retreats into a version of his younger self as the fallout from Wickham's are not designed.

threatens his marriage, and

nforeseen revelation adds his wife's anxiety.

Mrs Brown tries to find out

what her grandson wants for Christmas and Joses her

night when no one plays by

giggles, featuring Jason Manford, Nina Conti, David

O'Doherty and Tim Vine

Bidwell's

News

Louisa

10.15 Regional

Jpdate 10.20 Mrs Brown's Boys Christmas Special The first of two festive editions.

Concludes tomorrow.

10.00 BBC News

adventure

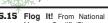
Action

BBC 2



David Attenborough explores the continent's wildlife in Africa, 9.30an

6.00 This Is BBC 2 6.30 Natural World: Tiger Dynasty (R) 7.30 Sign Zone: Great Continental Railway Journeys (R) 8.30 Sign Zone: Africa 2013: Countdown to the Rains The rains finally arrive and the grazing animals spread out across the valley. Last in the series. (R) 9.30 Africa David Attenborough explores the continent's wildlife and landscape. (R) 10.30 Earthflight (R) 11.30 FILM: War and Peace (1956) Historical drama, starring Audrey Hepburn. *** 2.50 FILM: How the West Was Won (1962) Three generations of a pioneer family experience many ordeals as they try to build a life for themselves on the American frontier. Epic Western, starring James Stewart and John Wayne. ★★★



Museum Cardiff. (R)

Celebrity Eggheads

Derek Jacobi, Frances

Barber, Neil Dudgeon,

Fjona Laird and Emma Fielding take on the general-knowledge champions. Hosted by Dermot Murnaghan. (R) The Choir: Sing While

You Work The three remaining choirs face their biggest challenge as they perform a song composed by Paul Mealor at Elv Cathedral, before one is

picked as the winner. Last in the series. (R) Christmas University Challenge Distinguished graduates of St Hugh's College, Oxford, compete with those of the University of Stirling, with Suzy Klein and Paul Lewis among the

Idris Elba - King of Speed Part two of two.
The Luther star examines the importance of precision driving skills in motorsports, learning the art of rallying former

champion Ari Vatanen.

Ben & James Versus
the Arabian Desert Part 9.00 two of two. James Cracknell and Ben Fogle continue their expedition across the Arabian Desert. As they try to pick up the pace, disaster strikes when one of them suffers a serious injury, leading to further delays - although it does allow them to reflect on

their friendship. 10.00 Cast Away (2000) A manager for a courier service has to fend for himself when a plane crash leaves him stranded alone on a desert island. Initially panic-stricken, he overcomes his terror to survive for four years on his own before building a raft and setting off on an epic journey back home. Adventure

home. Adventure drama, starring Tom Hanks, Helen Hunt, Nick Searcy, Lari White and Chris Noth. ***
Ambassadors (R) 1.15 FILM: The Mummy (1959) Hammer horror, starring Peter Cushing and Christopher Lee. *** 2.40 Sign Zone: Imagine – Who's Afraid of Machiavelli? (R) 3.40 Sign Zone: Waiting for Gaga: A Culture Show Special (R) 4.40 This Is BBC 2



Harry Hill narrate You've Been Frame shown at 8.00pm

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Badou. (R) 6.10 Dino Dan (R) 6.25 Dino Dan (R) 6.40 Sooty (R) 6.50 Bookabor 7.05 Horrid Henry (R) 7.20 Almost Naked Animais (R) 7.40 Almost Naked Animais (R) 7.55 Bottom Knocker Street 8.10 Bottom Knocker Street 8.10 Bottom Knocker Street 8.25 Dinner Date Russell from Essex takes part in the dating show. (R) 9.25 Murder, She Wrote A vertiloquist is accused of Wrote A vertiloquist is accused of Wrote A ventriloquist is accused or murder. (R) 10.25 Dickinson's Real Deal (R) 11.25 FILM: Batteries Not Included (1987) Sci-fi fantasy, starring Jessica Tandy. *** 1.25 ITV News and Weather 1.35 ITV News Central: Weather 1.40 FILM: Step Up (2006) Musical romance nning Tatum and Jenna

The Chase With Lorraine Kelly, Craig Charles, Jamelia and Dom Joly.

Downton Abbey The Crawleys are implicated in a scandal that threatens to engulf the royal family. Last in the series (P) in the series. (R)
ITV News Central;

Weather.
ITV News and Weather

Emmerdale Robbie becomes suspicious of Charity and Declan at the hospital, so she returns to Home Farm planning to delete the CCTV footage.

delete the CCIV hootage, but what she views gives her food for thought. Coronation Street Hayley waits nervously for the results of her scan, Nick admits to causing Leanne's black eye, and Maddie owns up to the theft of

owns up to the theft of Sally's handbag.
You've Been Framed!
Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, featuring everything from cute kids and crazy animals to pranks and painfulto pranks and painful-

looking accidents. (R)

Coronation Street

Hayley breaks down and lashes out at Roy, David is concerned when a despondent Kylie returns to No 8, and Nick makes a decision that has repercussions for Leanne.

Vicious A festive edition of the comedy starring lan McKellen and Derek Jacobi. Freddie and Stuart invite friends round for a

Christmas Day celebration at their flat.

9.35 Bridget Jones's Diary (2001) A Diary (2001) A woman begins a new year by resolving to find love and give up her bad habits. Romantic comedy based on Helen Fielding's novel, with Renee Zellweger Hugh Grant and Colin Firth. ★★★

11.20 ITV News at Ten and Weather; Weather.
11.35 The Cube A childminder

and a Londoner take up the challenge, aiming to complete tasks within the confines of the cube to win jackpot of £250.000 Hosted by Phillip Schofield.

12.25 Jackpot247 Interactive gaming. 3.00 FILM: The Majestic (2001) Drama, starring Jim Carrey.

*** 5.30 ITV Nightscreen

Сн4



6.15 Suburgatory 6.40 According to Jim (R) 7.05 According to Jim (R) 7.30 Will & Grace (R) 7.55 Will & Grace (R) 8.20 FILM: A Turtle's Tale: Sammy's Adventures (2010)
Premiere. Animated adventure, with
the voice of Dominic Cooper. ★★
10.00 The Big Bang Theory Penny considers breaking up with Leonard. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Leonard. (H) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory Sheldon hires an attractive female assistant. (R) 10.55 The Simpsons Homer wakes up to find his family missing. (R) 11.25 The Simpsons Mayor Quimby brings election day forward. (R) 11.55
FILM: Aliens in the Attic (2009)
Children's sci-fi comedy, starring
Carter Jenkins. ** 1.35 FILM: Dr Dolittle (1998) Comedy, starring Eddie Murphy. ★★★

3.15 Deal or No Deal: Ideal

themed edition.

5.20

5.50

6.20

7.05

8.00

9.00

Christmas Noel Edmonds hosts a festive-

Come Dine with Me Christmas Special With Jona Lewie, Maizie

Williams, VV Brown and

Toby Anstis. (R)
The Simpsons Home

reminisces about the time

Hollvoaks Freddie tries to save a loved one from the village's most

Hollvoaks Freddie races

to save a loved one from a grisly fate.

Channel 4 News

4thought.tv How Christmas is perceived by those who do not celebrate

Home Cooking With the help of his children, the chef prepares some of his

favourite hot and spicy

festive recipes, including Mexican eggs, noodle soup and aromatic whole

Celebrity Come Dine with Me Actress Danniella Westbrook, choreographer

Louie Spence, 1980s pop

star Sinitta and Hugo Taylor from Made in Chelsea get into the party spirit in a

festive celebrity special

The Inbetweeners Movie (2011) Awkward teenagers Simon, Will, Jay and

Neil head to one a wild holiday – but things do not go to plan.

Comedy, with Joe Thomas, Simon Bird,

M a i n s t r e a m Documentary revealing how the social and political

liberation of gay men has inspired and influenced the

music mainstream over the

Special Lauren Laverne

introduces footage from the group's performance at

the music event at London's Roundhouse.

James Buckley and
Blake Harrison. ***

10.55 Queer as Pop: From
the Gay Scene to the

past 40 years.

11.55 Chic: iTunes Festival

12.55 Kylie Minogue: Showgirl – Live At Earl's Court 1.55 FILM: The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) *** 3.35 '90210 4.15 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun (R)

5.10 SuperScrimpers 5.20 Deal or No Deal (R)

crispy roast duck.

Ramsav's

Gordon

most

he was in a band. (R)

dangerous residents.

pilots are sent to bomb a German rocket-fuel plant, but the capture of a resistance fighter threatens the plan. Second World War drama, with Cliff Robertson and George Chakiris. *** 1.50 FILM: Zulu Dawn (1979) Fact-based historical drama, charting events leading to the massacre of more than 1,500 British soldiers at Isandlwana. Prequel to Zulu, starring Burt Lancaster and Peter O'Toole. Edited for violence and language. ★★

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (1968) Children's musical 4.10 adventure, starring Dick

Van Dyke. ***
Eddie Stobart's
Christmas Delivery Festive edition of documentary, in which the company's truckers battle winter conditions to ensure shops and councils receive their supply of Christmas trees and salt; (R) 5 News

Update World's Strongest Man 2013 James Richardson presents the second heat from Haitang Bay in Sanya, China, featuring six competitors looking to finish in the top two and make it through to the final;

5 News at 9 Merry Christmas Mr Bean The hapless hero plans the Christmas holiday of a lifetime – but fate intervenes and pulls the rug out from under his feet, reducing what should have been the perfect festive season to a frantic comedy of errors. Slapstick, starring Rowan Atkinson. Part of Slapstick

Comedy Night. (R)

Do It Yourself Mr Bean The hapless hero's party falls flat, but he finds an ingenious way to beat the sales queues and bag a bargain. Slapstick comedy, starring Rowan Atkinson. Part of Slapstick Comedy

Part of Stopen Night. (R)

10.00 Tommy Cooper's

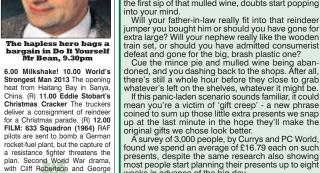
Christmas A seasonal special from 1973, sketches, magic and gues appearances by Sacha Distel and Clodagh Rodgers, who perform a medley of festive favourites Part of Slapstick Comedy

Night. (R) 11.05 The Plank (1967) Two clumsy workmen carry a plank to a building site, causing various mishaps and accidents along the way. Slapstick comedy, directed by and starring Eric Sykes. With Tommy Cooper. Slapstick Comedy

12.15 SuperCasino 3.05 Blackpool Lights 3.50 Motorsport Mundial 4.20 House Doctor (R) 4.45 Great Artists (R) 5.10 Nick's Quest (R) 5.35 Wildlife SOS (R)

CH5





coined to sum up those little extra presents we snap up at the last minute in the hope they'll make the original gifts we chose look better.

A survey of 3,000 people, by Currys and PC World, found we spend an average of £16.79 each on such presents, despite the same research also showing most people start planning their presents up to eight weeks in advance of the big day.

But 35% say they feel the urge to buy more because they are disappointed with how their gifts look wrapped up, and 23% say they worry the other person will have spent more.

person will have spent more.

Dr Karen Pine, a psychologist, says: "Choosing the right gifts at Christmas is one of the most stressful

You've got the presents – but are they any good

events of the year as people feel under pressure to

get it absolutely right.

"This pressure leads to a behavioural phenome

"This pressure leads to a behavioural phenomenon that we call 'gift creep'.
"This is when people buy additional gifts because they worry that what they've chosen isn't enough, or isn't quite up to scratch."
Although this concern about getting things right is principally aimed at the gifts we are giving, it does seep over to the ones we're receiving too. Over a third of those surveyed said they wish loved ones would stick to a specific list of presents, rather than trying to use their own initiative when buying a Christmas gift, and 30% said they go for the direct approach and tell their nearest and dearest exactly want they want and where to buy it.
Needless to say, the research also pointed to some differences between men and women in their gift-buying behaviour. Women said they start picking up on hints dropped up to 13 weeks before Christmas,

on hints dropped up to 13 weeks before Christmas, while men listen for subtle mentions up to nine weeks before. A wily 10% of both sexes said they monitored posts on social media for extra hints.

But while it would be tempting to think all this plan-ning and hint-hunting was enough to feel under con-trol of what's under the tree, the rise of 'gift creep'

clearly proves otherwise.

Here are the five signs to watch out for:

You say you've "finished" your Christmas shopping but still buy little extras every time you go out. You worry that a loved one won't like what you've bought them, so you add another gift, like a box of luxury chocolates, on top to soften the impact of any discassion to the state of the st disappointment.

 Before someone visits, you have a last-minute hunt round the house to see if there's anything else vou could give them.

After wrapping your gifts, you become anxious the size and number looks rather small.

You tot up how much you've spent on people and try to even up the amounts.

 You buy a gift for someone, forgetting you've already bought them something, and end up giving them both presents.

8.00

6.05

8.30 Miranda The shop

night when no one plays by her rules. (R)

11.00 Not Going Oute Christmas Special Lee and the gang spend Christmas. in a spooky country house. (R)

11.45 John Bishop's Christmas Show Festive glogles (featuring lason 12.45 FILM: The Lonely Guy (1984) Comedy, with Steve Martin and Charles Grodin. ★★ 2.10 Weatherview 2.15 BBC News

Sweet treats for pairing with pud

Sam Wylie-Harris suggests some sweet and fortified wines to pair with those festive desserts and cheeses

SWEET SOMETHINGS

What you serve at the end of Christmas dinner, with the steamed pud, mince pies and cheeseboard, is just as important as that first flute of champagne with the toast, yet it is often only an after-thought.
Plan ahead this year and leave the right lasting impression with these top sweet and fortified wines.



CHRISTMAS PUDDING Chateau D'Orignac AOC Pineau des Charentes, www.thewinesociety.com) This golden eliviries

This golden elixir is the per-fect sweet brandy to pair with a flaming pud. A blend of eau-de-vie and grape juice from the Cognac region, this Pineau spends at least five years in oak and should be served well-chilled to truly appreciate the zip of apricots poached in syrup and deli-cate caramel and honey notes

Blandy's 10 Year Old Malmsey, Madeira (£19.99,

www.vintagemarque.com)
Madeira comes into its own
this time of year. A sinfully
sweet aged malmsey is not
only utterly delicious on its own, but also rich and nutty enough, with its core of con-centrated raisins and soft tof-fee and spice, to stand up to the heavy fruit, rum sauce, custard and cream - yummy.

CHEESES Taylors 10 Year Old Tawny Port, Portugal (£18.30, 75cl,

Chateau D'Orignac Waitrose)
Remarkably drinkable and the most traditional match with Stilton, the red fruits in a tawny port complementing the blue vein in the cheese. The velvety smooth, soaked fruitcake flavours, with golden sultanas and figs on the long, soft finish, will also taste heavenly with a box of chocolate truffles

Klein Constantia Vin de Constance 2008, West-ern Cape, South Africa (£37, 50cl, www.bbr.com) With a long, rich past, Vin de Constance is South Africa's answer to the finest Sauternes and this wine

has been cited as one of the world's greats. Long

appreciated by the likes of Napoleon and Frederick the Great, this lush, sweet, intense white made from a muscat variety still makes its mark, and should be served chilled with a selection of hard cheeses like parmesan, pecorino and comte.

TRIFLE Barbier Chateau Sauternes 2005, France (£9.99, 37.5cl, www.virgin-

wines.co.uk)
This delectable Bordeaux blonde from an outstanding vintage will complement a well-laced trifle with fresh fruit, vanilla custard and cream It is pure nectar with potent notes of honey, orange blossom and exotic candied fruits, and the sweetness and richness are balanced by a good acidity on the silky finish.

Brown Brothers Orange

Flora Muscat 2012, Victoria, Australia (£7.49, 37.5cl, Waitrose)

Young and ever-so-slightly effervescent, this little gem from Down Under is tinged with tropical fruit with the medley of zesty citrus and subtle spice keeping it fresh floral and fun. Uber deli-cious, serve well-chilled for a final flourish with trifle and



Brown Brothers Orange Flora Muscat

BEST BUY

Last minute stocking filler... A quiz book for trivialoving tipplers, Shaken Not Stirred! A Boozy Quiz by
Graham Tarrant (£10, published by Bloomsbury,
available from all good book shops) contains 50 sections to challenge wine lovers, whisky noses, cocktail
hounds and beer experts with questions, drinkrelated songs, famous quotes and other spirituous
delights over the festive season.

Saturday 28 December

BBC 2 BBC 1



Gary Lineker presents highlights in Match of the Day, 10.30pm

6.00 Breakfast News, sport and entertainment reports. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Actor Ian McShane faces his food heaven or McSnahe laces his food neaven of heli. 11,30 Nigel Slater's New Year Suppers The cook prepares sumptious dishes from seasonal produce, (R) 12.00 Football Focus Dan Walker and guests look back at Dan warker and guests look back at the Boxing Day fixtures. 12.45 Saturday Sportsday A round-up of the latest sports news. 1.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 1.15 F1 2013 – A Record Breaking Year Suzi Perry presents a look back at the season. 2.15 Bargain Hunt Two teams are challenged to pick up bargains at an antiques fair at Gloucester Docks, where presenter Tim Wonnacott discovers a highly collectable red telephone box. (R) 3.15 Call the Midwife: Christmas Special The locals are evacuated after the discovery of an unexploded bomb. (R)

Final Score A round-up

of this afternoon's footbal

BBC News; Regional

News; Weather.
Celebrity Mastermind

Gail Porter, Danny John-Jules, Prue Leith and Mike

Bushell answer questions on number one singles, choreographer Bob Fosse,

wartime food and Alan

Pointless Celebrities

New series. A 1980s edition, featuring

Stephanie Beacham and Emma Samms, Anne Diamond and Rustie Lee,

and Denise Pearson and

edman Pearson

Up (2009) An old man uses balloons to fly his house to South America, but finds an excitable boy scout has stowed away. Animated

adventure, with the voices of Ed Asner and

tested to the extreme when

Ariadne is found guilty of treason and sentenced to death. John Hannah guest

Georgiana, but the indiscretions that come to light during Wickham's murder trial help to reunite

the family. Last in the

Live Chris Evans reveals

the results of the Lotto and the Thunderhall

Cardiff City v Sunderland; National Lottery Update

tourists on a boat trip in

an uncharted part of the Australian Outback is attacked by a ferocious crocodile. Thriller, with Radha Mitchell and

Michael Vartan ++ 1.30 Weatherview 1.35 BBC News

10.00 The National Lottery

the Thunderball.

10.10 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day Highlights of the latest Premier League fixtures, including Norwich City v Manchester United and Cortiff Citru. Sundedord:

11.50 Rogue (2007) Premiere. A party of

Comes Pemberley Elizabeth remains aggrieved at Darcy's treatment of

stars. Last in the series

9.00 Death

Jordan Nagai. ****

8.15 Atlantis Part two of two.
Jason and his friends are

Partridge

4.30

5.10

6.00

6.50

Prime

8

Late



Cliff Richard features in 100 Years of the Palladium, 8pm

6.00 This Is BBC 2 Preview of



6.00 This Is BBC 2 Preview of upcoming programmes. 6.40 Natural World: Grizzlies of Alaska A grizzly bear prepares her two cubs to survive winter. (R) 7.40 Antiques Road Trip With Thomas Plant and Philip Serrell B.40 Antiques Road Trip Thomas Plant and Philip Serrell bit the third leg of their road trip. 9.40 Africa The Creatures of East Africa. (R) 10.40 FIIM *Leg Princess (2005)* Comedy FILM: Ice Princess (2005) Comedy FILM: Ice Princess (2005) Comedy drama, starring Michelle Trachtenberg. *** 12.10 FILM: Revenge of the Bridesmalide (2010) Premiere. Comedy, starring Raven-Symone and JoAnna Garcia Swisher. *** 1.35 FILM: The Accidental Husband (2008) Romantic comedy, starring Uma Thurman and Colin Firth, ★★



through Rub' al Khali. (R)
Flog It! Kate Bliss and
David Fletcher search for 4.00

antiques in Wiltshire.
The Guns The Guns of Navarone (1961)
Second World War adventure, starring Gregory Peck. ***
Dad's Army Pompous Captain Mainwaring proves he is a softle at heart to creating a Christmas. 5.00

7.30 by organising a Christmas treat for the struggling senior citizens of Walmington-on-Sea.

Arthur Lowe stars. (R)

100 Years of the

Palladium Cliff Richard, 8.00 Bruce Forsyth and Andrew Lloyd Webber are among the stars sharing the gossip, glamour and behind-the-scenes goings-on of one of the world's most famous

theatres. (R)

I Am Number Four
(2011) Premiere. A 9.00 teenager with special powers is forced to live as a fugitive, constantly moving from place to place with his protector to avoid aliens who seek to destroy him. His nomadic existence is threatened when threatened when he falls in love, just as he begins to realise the origin of his extraordinary abilities. Sci-fi thriller, starring Alex Pettyfer, Timothy Olyphant and Teresa

Palmer. **

10.40 Charlie Brooker's 2013 Wipe A satirical look back at the events of the past 12 months, which included the horse-meat scandal, the death of Margaret Thatcher and the

US government shutdown.

11.40 Ambassadors The embassy is thrown into chaos when a dissident seeks sanctuary and a minor royal travels to Tazbekistan in his capacity as trade envoy. Tom Hollander guest stars. (R) FILM: The Curse of

12:40 FILM: The Curse of Frankenstein (1957) Hammer horror, starring Peter Cushing and Christopher Lee. *** 2.00 Sign Zone: Killer Whales: Beneath the Surface – Natural World (R) 3.00 Sign Zone: The Silent War (R) 4.00 This Is BBC 2



6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Badou. (R) 6.10 The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That (R) 6.25 The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That (R) 6.35 Dino Dan (R) 6.50 Dino Dan (R) 7.00 Canimals (R) 7.10 Canimals (R) 7.15 Canimals (R) 7.25 Bookaboo (R) 7.35 Kick Buttowski - Suburban Daredevil 7.50 Om Nom Stories (R) 7.55 Bottom Knocker Street 8.10 Bottom Knocker Street 8.20 Horrid Henry (R) 8.30 Victorious 9.00 Deadtim (R) 8.30 Victorious 9.00 Deadtime Stories (R) 9.25 ITV News 9.30 The Home of Fabulous Cakes (R) 10.30 Murder, She Wrote (R) 11.30 ITV News and Weather; Weather.





6.15 FILM: Ramona and Reezus (2010) Family comedy, starring Joey King. *** 8.00 The Morning Line 9.00 The American Football Show A round-up of the latest NFL matches. 10.00 Frasier The Maris murder case makes Niles a celebrity. (R) 10.30 Frasier Martin unwittingly eats a marijuana-laced unwittingly easts a manipuna-laced brownie. (R) 11.00 The Big Bang Theory 11.30 The Big Bang Theory 12.00 The Simpsons The greatest love stories of all time. (R) 12.30 The Simpsons With the voice of Topher Grace (That 70s Show). (R) 1.00 Channel 4 Racing Nick Luck presents live coverage of this afternoon's races, including the 3.00 Welsh National from Chepstow, along with three further races from the course, and two from Newbury.



Сн5

Terry Hollands features in World's Strongest Man 2013, 8.00pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.45 Chinese Food in Minutes (R) 9.55 The Dog Rescuers Kate Fletcher and Becky London make a shocking discovery when they join up with the police to when they join up with the police to rescue some dogs from an owner who is banned from keeping animals. (R) 10.25 FILM: Chitty Bang Bang (1968) An inventor finds an old car has magical powers, and a greedy tyrant will do anything to get hold of it. Children's musical adventure, with Dick Van Dyke and Lionel Jeffries. *** 1.15 FILM: Oklahoma! (1955) A farm girl is torn between two suitors, a charming cowboy and a grim, brooding farmhand. Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical Western starring Gordon MacRae and Shirley Jones. ★★★

3.35 Celebrity Come Dine with Me Interior designer Linda Barker hosts the first offour star-studded parties

4.00 Celebrity Come Dine with Me Blue singer Lee Ryan hosts the second

dinner party. (R)

Celebrity Come Dine
with Me Pop singer
Michelle Heaton hosts the

next dinner party. (R)

Celebrity Come Dine
with Me Nightclub owner Peter Stringfellow hosts the

final dinner party. (R)

Channel 4 News

4thought.tv How

Christmas is perceived by those who do not celebrate

George Clarke's
Amazing Christmas
Spaces The architect 6.00 visits a man-made stalactite crystal grotto in Surrey, and a Victorian flat-pack tin chapel in Shropshire that has been turned into a

magical holiday home. (R)

The Italian Job
(1969) A crook puts together a plan to steal £4million in gold and make a quick getaway from central Turin in a fleet of Minis. Crime comedy, starring
Michael Caine and Noel
Coward. ****
50 Funniest Moments

2013 A countdown of the most hilarious, surprising and sometimes shocking incidents from the past 12 months. Danny Dyer, Charlotte Crosby, Russell Kane and Helen Flanagan are among contributing their thoughts

11.05 The Inbetweeners The lads visit a Caravan Club meeting under the impression that it is really a massive orgy, but are embarrassed when Jay's dad decides to give them advice on sex (R

11.35 The Inbetweeners Will is put in charge of organising the end-of-term Christmas prom, so he enlists the help of Simon Jay and Neil. (R)

Jay and Neil. (F)
12.05 The Inbetweeners (R) 12.35
FILM: The Girl with the Dragon
Tattoo (2009) Mystery thriller,
starring Michael Nydysta and Noomi
Rapace. (English Subtitles) ***
3.10 Hollyoaks Omnibus. (R) 5.25
Suburgatory 5.50 The Treacle
People (R)

4.00 The Princess Bride (1987) Comic fantasy adventure, starring Cary Elwes. ★★★ 5.50

Michael Jackson's This Is It (2009) Documentary following rehearsals for the singer's planned 50-night series of concerts at London's O2. immediately before his death in 2009. Featuring interviews with Jackson, performances of classic hits including Billy Jean and Wanna Be Startin' Something, and an insight into the elaborate preparations for the shows that were never staged. ***
World's Strongest Man

2013 James Richardson presents action from the third heat from Haitang Bay in Sanya, China, as another six competitors aimed to finish in the top two and make it through to the final. Brian Shaw of the USA was the favourite to progress from this heat, with Britain's Terry Hollands also in the frame having finished seventh in last year's

competition 5 News Weekend 8.55

> for a purpose and that Molina and Sigourney

Two teenagers hope to Comedy, starring Jonah Hill and Michael Cera.

Abduction (2011) Premiere. A teenager finds a photo of himself

on a website displaying photos of missing children and realises his parents are not his real family. He tries to find out his true identity, and discovers he was taken shadowy agents are on his trail. Action thriller, starring Taylor Lautner, Lily Collins, Alfred

11.05 Superbad (2007) lose their virginity at a party – but to get into the bash they must take booze, which proves harder than expected.

1.25 SuperCasino 4.00 My 1.25 SuperCasino 4.00 My Depression Diarles: Kerry Katona 4.50 Roary the Racing Car (F) 5.00 Angels of Jarm (R) 5.10 Hana's Helpline (R) 5.20 Angels of Jarm (R) 5.30 The Funky Valley Show (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car (R) 5.50 Hana's Helpline (R)



Catherine Tyldesley features in All Star Family Fortunes, 7.00pm

11.35 Dinner Date (R) 12.35 Midsomer Murders (R) 2.35 The One and Only Cilla Black (R)

Off Their Rockers A pensioner decides to audition for Britain's Got

Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs at Christmas The comedian 4,35 helps out at Battersea Dogs & Cats Home over

the festive period. (R)
ITV News Central;

ITV News and Weather The Chase: Celebrity Special With Olympian and I'm a Celebrity camper Rebecca Adlinaton. Rebecca Adlington,
Daybreak's Kate Garraway,
Sive singer Ritchie Neville
and chef Rosemary
Shrager. Bradley Walsh
hosts. Last in the series.
All Star Family
Fortunes New series. A
Heam from Pancing on Ice

7.00 team from Dancing on Ice and some of the stars of Coronation Street compete for the chance to win cash

for charity. Vernon Kay hosts this festive special. The Cube: Celebrity Special Loose Women's Sherrie Hewson and Lisa Maxwell and former co-panellist Denise Welch take on the Cube together, and Olympic gold medallist

and Olympic gold medallist
Greg Rutherford tackles
the challenge solo.

The Jonathan Ross
Show The host is joined
by naturalist David Attenborough, comedian John Bishop, chef Jamie Oliver, actor Ray Winstone and TV farmer Jimmy Doherty, and Susan Boyle provides the music. 10.15 ITV News and Weather;

Weather. 10.30 The Holiday (2006)

Two single women living on opposite sides of the Atlantic agree to exchange houses over the Christmas holidays ristmas holidays their nev new both surroundings, women unexpectedly encounter prospective partners, but as the house swap draws to a close, difficult decisions have to be made about their blossoming their blossoming relationships. Romantic Cameron Diaz, Kate
Winslet, Jack Black,
Jude Law and Eli
Wallach. **

1.00 Jackpot247 3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA (R) 3.40 ITV Nightscreen

I BBC 2

The Monty Python star presents Michael Palin

in Wyeth's World, 9.00pm

upcoming programmes. 6.10 Natural World: Bringing Up Baby

The bond between animal mothers and their babies. (R) **7.00 Antiques Road Trip** Philip Serrell and Thomas

Plant head to Greenwich. 8.00 Antiques Road Trip Paul Laidlaw and Mark Stacey head to an auction in Nantwich. 9.00 Antiques Road

Trip Paul Laidlow looks into the life

of the royals. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites Highlights of the series. 11.30 The A to Z of TV Cooking John Torode selects his

favourite moments from the series

12.15 EastEnders Omnibus, David

the Arabian Desert (R)

6.00 This Is BBC 2 Preview

View

3.20

4.00

6.00

7.00

Sunday 29 December





Mark Chapman presents Match of the Day 2 shown at 10.30pm

6.00 Breakfast 9.10 Match of the Day Including action from Norwich City v Manchester United. (R) 10.30 FILM: Father of the Bride Part II (1995) Comedy sequel, starring Steve Martin. ★★ 12.15 MOTD2 Extra With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team. 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 Wallace & Gromit: A Close Shave The animated characters get mixed up in sheep rustling. (R) 1.45 Shrek: The Pig Who Cried Werewolf Spin-off from the Shrek movies. 1.55 FILM: Monsters vs Aliens (2009) A giant woman joins a team of strange creatures fighting to save the world from an align in to save Animated sci-fi comedy, featuring the voices of Reese Witherspoon and Hugh Laurie ***

Comic Relief 2013: 100

Million Laughs Lenny

Henry, Steve Jones and Zoe Ball look back at the

Songs of Praise People who have been publicly honoured for their actions.

BBC News; Regional

Countryfile Ellie Harrison

recalls some of the endangered animals

programme, including red squirrels photographed by Julia Bradbury in the Yorkshire Dales. Including

Weather for the Week

Antiques Roadshow

Updates on the most talked-about finds of the

past 12 months, including an item once owned by a Queen and another that

delivered the largest sale price of any roadshow

Pirates of the

Caribbean: On Stranger Tides

Stranger Tides (2011) Premiere. Captain Jack Sparrow

sets sail in search of the

legendary fountain of youth. His mission puts him up against a

mysterious woman from his past, old

from his past, old enemy Barbossa, now in the employ of the British Navy, and the most feared pirate of them all, the dreaded Blackbeard. Fantasy

Blackbeard. Fantasy adventure sequel, with

Johnny Depp. Penelope ruz, Geoffrey Rush nd lan McShane. ★★

Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, which included

Chelsea v Liverpool at Stamford Bridge and Everton v Southampton at

Show Manish Bhasin presents highlights and all

the goals from today's

10.30 Match of the Day 2 Mark

Goodison Park.

11.50 The Football League

Cruz. 10.05 BBC News; Regional

on

charity event.

News: Weather,

featured

reassures Janine that he won't tell anyone her secret, while Peter and Lola plot to bring their families together on Christmas Day. That Puppet Game Show With Richard Hammond and Oritse Williams. Last in the series. Ben & James Versus

Flog It! 5.15 Navarone (1978) A commando mission to destroy a bridge in the Balkans that is vital to the Nazis is jeopardised by a traitor. Second World War adventure starring sequel, starring Harrison Ford and

Robert Shaw. ** Porridge Mackay and Barraclough discover Fletch is making booze in 7.15 his cell and the crafty con seems certain to spend Christmas in solitary. Festive special from 1976,

vith Ronnie Barker. (R) Morecambe & Wise: The Curtains Penelope Keith presents a look through the archives at the parts of the comedy due's shows in which they chatted to each other – and their guests - in front of the tage curtains

9.00 Michael Palin Wyeth's World The Monty Python star heads to rural Pennsylvania and Maine to explore the life and work of artist Andrew Wyeth, one of America's most popular controversial painters.

10.00 QI Stephen Fry hosts a festive edition of the comedy quiz, with Jo Brand. Phill Jupitus. Brendan O'Carroll and Alan Davies answering questions on the theme of

Kris Kringle.

10.30 2013: Moments in
Time The story of 2013 told through the most powerful images captured by members of the public, from the helicopter crash in London in January to the Boston Marathon

bombing. (R)

11.30 Top of the Pops 2:
Christmas 2013 Mark Radcliffe presents festive favourites from the archive including classics by John & Yoko, Slade, Wizzard, Wham! and Paul McCartney, as well as a new performance by Boyzone. (R) 1.00 Ambassadors (R) 2.00 FILM:

The Abominable Snowman (1957) I ne Abominable Snowman (1957) Hammer horror, starring Peter Cushing. (b/w) ★★★ 3.25 Sign Zone: Countryfile Christmas Special (R) 4.20 Sign Zone: Holby City (R) 5.20 This is BBC 2



Julia McKenzie stars in Agatha Christie's Marple shown at 8.00pm

6.00 CITY: Bahar and the Adventures of Badou. (R) 6.10 The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That (R) 6.25 The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That (R) 6.35 Dino Dan (R) 6.50 Dino Dan (R) 7.00 Canimals (R) 7.10 Canimals (R) 7.15 Canimals (R) 7.25 Bookaboo (R) 7.35 Kick Buttowski - Suburban Daredevil 7.45 Om Nom Stories (R) 7.50 Om Nom Stories (R) 7.55 Share a Story: The Winners' Journey (R) 8.20 Horrid Henry (R) 8.30 Victorious 9.00 Deadtime Stories (R) 9.25 ITV 9.00 Deadtime Stories (R) 9.25 ITV News 9.30 Storage Hoarders (R) 10.30 Sunday Side Up 11.30 Sunday Scoop 12.30 ITV News and Weather; Weather. 12.35 Inside the National Trust 1.35 Midsomer Murders (R)

Love Your Garden Alan Titchmarsh provides a garden makeover for an x-serviceman. (R)

ex-serviceman. (H)

Just Henry One-off
period drama, starring
Josh Bolt and Elaine

Cassidy. (R)

ITV News Central;

6.35

ITV News and Weather C h r i s t m a s Catchphrase Stephen Mulhern hosts a festive special of the game show, challenging Carol Vorderman, Michael Ball and Michelle Collins to see

it and say it.

Agatha Christie's

Marple Newlyweds Mike 8.00 and Ellie decide to build their dream home at a beauty spot called Gypsy's Acre, ignoring the warnings of elusive romany Mrs Lee about an ancient curse supposedly cast upon the land. The couple settle into their new life, but the mysterious woman makes her presence felt, subjecting them to a campaign of hatred in an attempt to force them out. Before long, tragedy strikes, and only Miss Marple can solve the riddle However, in doing so she must put her own life in must put her own life in grave danger. Murder mystery, starring Julia McKenzie, with Wendy Craig, Glynis Barber, Hugh Dennis and Tom Hughes. Last in the series.

10.00 ITV News at Ten and Weather Weather

Weather; Weather. The Break-Up

10.15 The (2006) thirtysomething couple's seemingly perfect relationship deteriorates into a series of petty squabbles. But once they decide to call it a day, another problem presents itself – neither is willing to give up their home, forcing the pair to carry on living together, while each hopes the other will be driven away first. Comedy drama, starring Jennifer Aniston, Vince Vaughn,

12.10 Premiership Rugby Union 1.10 The Store 2.55 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA (R) 3.40 ITV Nightscreen 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show (R)

Lauren Adams. **

Jon Favreau and Joey



The motorcycle racer resents Speed with Guy Martin, 8.00pm

6.00 The American Football Show (R) 6.55 FILM: Boo. Zino and the Snurks (2004) Animated adventure, with the voice of Patrick Stewart. ** 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond Debra's parents join the Barones for Thanksgiving. (R) 9.00 Frasler KACL staff compete against a rival station. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch Hosts Tim Lovejoy and Simon Rimmer are joined in the studio by guests Blue and Sam & Mark, with musician Andy Burrows performing in the studio. Last in the series. 12.30 The Big Bang Theory Howard returns from space. (R) 1.00 The Simpsons Bart and Lisa think they have killed Martin. (R)

1.30 FILM: Inkheart (2008) Fantasy adventure, starring Brendan Fraser and Andy Serkis. ***

Channel 4 News 4thought.tv Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (2004)

Celebrity Come Dine
with Me Festive special,
with Danniella Westbrook,
Louie Spence, Sinitta and 6.00 Hugo Taylor. (R)

Bear's Wild Weekend with Stephen Fry Bear Grylls takes the QI host on an expedition to the Italian Dolomites, setting him a series of challenges, from travelling on the skids of a helicopter to descending a

waterfall. (R) Speed with Guy Martin New series. The motorcycle racer takes part in four adrenaline-fuelled challenges, beginning with an attempt to break the British record for outright

speed on a bicycle.
8 Out of 10 Cats
Christmas Special
Team captains Jon
Richardson and Sean Lock are joined by guests Holly Willoughby, Henning Wehn, Alan Davies, Nick Helm, Joe Wilkinson and Roisin Conaty, Jimmy Carr

10.00 Rude Tube's Cracker 2013 Alex Zane presents a countdown memorable festive internet videos, including the laziest set of fairy lights, Santa's machine-gun grotto and the Christmas tree-Olympics.

11.05 Mashed 2013 Digitally

enhanced round-up of 2013's big news events, including Miley Cyrus and her twerking exploits, UKIP's Nigel Farage as gangsta rapper and the Queen's social-networking

11.40 The Inbetweeners The friends prepare for their exams. Simon makes progress with Carli by helping her revise, and the gang members get together to reminisce about the past year. Last in the series. (R)

the series, (R)
12.10 The Inbetweeners (R) 12.40
The Inbetweeners (R) 1.10
American Football Live 4.45 Brief
Encounters of the Sporting Mind
(R) 4.50 Countdown (R) 5.35
Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard (R)



Songs, dance and chat in An Audience with Bruce Forsyth, 9.00pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 Inside Hollywood Magazine show. 10.00 The Dog Rescuers (R) 10.25 World's Strongest Man 2013 The second heat from Haitang Bay in Sanya, China. (R) 11.25 World's Strongest Man 2013 The third heat from Haitang Bay in Sanya, China.
(R) 12.25 Eddie Stobart: Trucks
and Trailers Mark Dixon transports 25 tons of logs to Kent, a new 25 tons of logs to Kent, a new aeroplane de-icer is put to the test at London Southend Airport and Tim Fox collects a load from a salt mine. (R) 1.30 FILM: 21 (2008) A brilliant student agrees to join a shady professor's card-counting scam to raise the money he needs to enrol in medical school. Drama, starring Kevin Spacey and Jim Sturgess Edited for daytime broadcast. ***

(1979) Yanks Romantic drama, starring Richard Gere and Lisa Eichhorn.

6.20 Snow White (2001) A widower struggles to A widower struggles to put food on the table for himself and his daughter. One day while out hunting, he saves the life of a strange creature, which grants him three wishes in return - but the reward comes at a high price. Luckily, seven brightly garbed chums are on hand to help. Modern-day reworking of the classic fairy tale, starring Kristin Kreuk, Miranda Richardson, Tom Irwin, Vera Farmiga and Tyron Leitso. ★★

5 News Weekend World's Strongest Man 2013 James Richardson presents action from the fourth heat from Haitang

fourth heat from Haitang Bay in Sanya, China, where the top two of six competitors would progress to the final.

An Audience with Bruce Forsyth The versatile veteran entertainer reveals his many talents in a feast of many talents in a feast of song and dance before a VIP audience, who quiz him about his remarkable career. Part of Bruce

Forsyth @85. (R)

Bruce Forsyth's

Comedy Heroes The 10.05 Bruce entertainer discusses his favourite comics, including Max Miller, Laurel and Hardy and Harry Hill Contributors include Michael Grade, Jimmy Tarbuck and Barry Cryer. Part of Bruce Forsyth @85.

(R)

11.05 Shirley Valentine
(1989) A housewife is freed from her humdrum existence when a Greek challed offers her the chance to experience the good life. Comedy, starring Pauline Collins, Tom Conti and Bernard Hill. ***

1.15 SuperCasino 3.05 Louis Smith: Living with ADHD 3.55 Wildlife SOS (R) 4.20 Make It Big Wilding SOS (r) 4.20 make it Big (R) 4.50 Roary the Racing Car (R) 5.00 Angels of Jarm (R) 5.10 Hana's Helpline (R) 5.20 Angels of Jarm (R) 5.30 The Funky Valley Show (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car (R) 5.50 Hana's Helpline (R)



Last minute travel treats for Xmas

Festive gift guide

If you've left your Christmas shopping a bit late, don't panic – give your loved ones something they will remember, for all the right reasons, with these top ten travel gifts.

1. See the Northern Lights: Travelbag vouchers can be spent against a range of short and long haul holidays, but perfect for a festive break is a three nights' B&B break in I celand at the four-star Grand Reykjavik Hotel, with flights ex-London and regional airports, from £299, if booked by January 31 for February/March travel.

Information: 0845 543 6615/ www.travelbag.co.uk.

2. London's West End: Superbreak vouchers for £5£100 are redeemable on short theatre breaks, like the Jersey Boys weekend for £160 in December/January. Package includes tickets to the hit musical, plus two nights' B&B at the four-star Park Plaza Riverbank Hotel, on the South Bank - near to the London Eye, Westminer Abbey and Tate Britain. Information: 0871 700 4834/ www.superbreak.com

3. Premiership Soccer: Get into the World Cup mood with a ticket for the Manchester United v. Man-chester City clash on March 1, with B&B at the three-star Novotel Manchester West, costing £256 at Thomas Cook Sport.

Information: 0844 8798799/ www.thomascooksp



Why not use a travel break for a present?

4. Live like a Lord and Lady: Brit Movie Tours 4. LIVE IIKE a LORG and Lady: BIT MOVIE IOURS vouchers from £15 can be spent on the Downton Abbey Country Film Locations Tour – or £95 each for group visits – taking in Oxfordshire villages seen in the hit TV show, plus Downton Village and tea in the home of the Dowager Countess.

Information: 0844 247 1007/www.britmovieto.urs.com

5. Wanderlust: The celebrated travel magazine, Wanderlust, is 20 years old this December, and is still as inspiring as ever for those planning – or simply dreaming about – an exotic holiday. Annual subscription (£30) buys ten issues, plus a 'Round the World in 500 Festivals' guide. Information: 01753 620426/subs@wanderlust.co.uk

6. Ride on luxury train: Take the luxury Orient Express day trip around UK from £310 in January/February using Railbookers vouchers worth up to £100 each. Vouchers can also be spent on urostar and rail travel worldwide.

Information: 0203 327 0760/ www.railbookers.com;

0845 077 2222/ www.orient-express.com/uktrains

7. Perfect for Petrolheads: Leger Holidays offer return coach trips (B&B basis) to top motoring events include Formula 1 Grand Prix in Spain, Monaco, Belgium or Austria, the endurance-testing 24 Hour Le Mans event or the German Motor Show, with tickets to Maris event of the German Motor Show, with tickets to qualifying and main events included. From £279 for German Motor Show (March), from £299 for Le Mans (June) and from £399 for four/five day Grand Prix tours (May-September). Information: 0844 324 9256/ www.legerbreaks.info

8. Painting in Barcelona: An artist couple run painting courses in the Catalan capital from their B&B penthouse, from £675 for six nights, from £1,150 per couple, including five days of tuition and transport to/from painting sites, plus breakfasts and

Information: www.la-terraza-atico.com

9. Best of British History: Historic Royal Palaces (HRP), an independent charity looking after the Tower of London, Hampton Court Palace, Banqueting House, Kensington Palace and Kew Palace, offers a Christmas Gift Membership (from £45) giving unlimited year-long access to all five palaces.

Information: 0844 482 7788/ www.hrp.org.uk

10. Child friendly: Explore Peppa Pig World at Paultons Park, with B&B accommodation at New Forest country house hotel Bartley Lodge for £219, includes tickets for two days' entry to Paultons Park and Peppa Pig World. For this offer price, book by January 9 to stay during February half-term. Information: 0871 360 2034/ www.paultonsbreaks.com

first goals from today's fixtures in the Championship, League One and League Two, including Watford v Queens Park Rangers. 1.05 Weatherview 1.10 BBC News

CHRISTMAS MUSIC

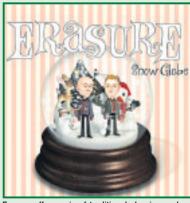
Sounds for the festive season

Whatever your taste in music, a Christmas album is a seasonal must-have. Shereen Low rounds up this year's offerings, taking in an eclectic mix of artists. from Mary J Blige and Bright Eyes to Erasure and Kelly Clarkson

ALBUM OF THE WEEK BRIGHT EYES - A CHRISTMAS ALBUM

Bucking the trend of greatest hits and 'winners-single' releases this festive season is Nebraska-born indie outfit Bright Eyes whose A Christmas Album features a wealth of restyled classics such as White Christmas, Silent Night and more. Conor Oberst, Mike Mogis and Nate Walcott first released the record in 2002 with proceeds going to the Nebraska AIDS Project, but they have now given the album a wide release for your listening pleasure. The collection is incredibly emotional, though occasionally bordering on the morose. Stand-out tracks Silent Night and Have Yourself A Merry Little Question are wonderful, both incredibly delicate and unassuming, yet poignant. This is a sentimental, at times heart-breakyet poignant. This is a sentimental, at times heart-break-ing, collection which deserves a place in homes every-where this festive season.

Rating: 9/10 (Review by Holly McKenzie)



Erasure offer a mix of traditional classics such as Silent Night and White Christmas and the duo's own

ERASURE - SNOW GLOBE

Synth-pop duo Erasure return with a Christmas album with a difference - the difference being it's not particularly festive. The 13-track album is a mix of traditional classics such as Silent Night and White Christmas and the duo's own compositions. There may be Andy Bell's trademark vocals and synths-a-plenty court esty of Vince Clarke, but just don't expect any jingling bells, this is a rather more subdued affair. This is no bad thing though simply making in one of the better Christ. bells, this is a rather more subdued affair. This is no bad thing though, simply making i one of the better Christmas albums out there. Snow Globe is a little dark, a little eerie but most importantly, more than a little good. Bleak Midwinter really does sound rather bleak, while one of the duo's own tunes, Make It Wonderful, and Loving Man are highlights.

Rating: 7/10
(Review by Polly Weeks)

FOR FOLK'S SAKE - IT'S CHRISTMAS 2013

Continuing its annual tradition for the fourth year music website For Folk's Sake has created a festive colmusic website For Folk's Sake has created a festive collection of covers and original songs by upcoming artists. It opens with Patch And The Giant's ragtime/Irish jig version of God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen and ends with a psychedelic electronica journey to future Christmases with Time Frog 4000 by Emperor Yes. Most of the record is split between straight versions of carols like The First Noel and Joy To The World and some charming, Christmas-inspired ballads by sugary-voiced female vocalists, while Howard Carter's instrumental Adagio from Corelli's Christmas Concerto adds a touch of classical refinement. In contrast, Santa Says Relax by Joe Innes and The Cavalcade is a pop-culture-laden tribute to commercial traditions, sampling Santa Baby. The dirge-like re-imagining Silentish Night is one of the missed marks, but there's no pleasing everyone all of the time.

Rating: 8/10

(Review by Natalie Bowen)

MARY J BLIGE - A MARY CHRISTMAS

MARY J BLIGE - A MARY CHRISTMAS

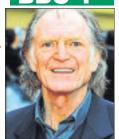
Putting her own recognisable R&B spin on well-known festive tracks is soul songstress Mary J Blige. A Mary Christmas is more light-hearted fare than the angst-filled songs the 42-year-old is known for. The 12-track collection features well-known songs including Little Drummer Boy, Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas, The Christmas Song and Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer to more obscure tracks like the beautifully soulful Mary, Did You Know? and Petit Papa/Noel. Blige is joined by Jessie J on Do You Hear?, which they performed on The X Factor, Barbra Streisand on When You Wish Upon A Star and Marc Anthony on the bilingual Noche De Paz (Silent Night).

Listeners may be baffled as to why My Favourite Things and When You Wish Upon A Star are on a Christmas album, but apart from that, A Mary Christmas is one for Blige fans to cherish.

Rating: 7/10 (Review by Shereen Low)

Monday 30 December

BBC 2



David Bradley features in Celebrity Mastermind shown at 7pm

6.00 Breakfast 9.10 FILM: Bridge to Terabithia (2007) Fantasy drama, starring Josh Hutcherson.

*** 10.40 FILM: Sky High (2005) Fantasy comedy, starring Kurt Russell and Michael Angarano.

*** 12.15 Bargain Hunt From Lewes in East Sussex. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.10 Regional News; Weather. 1.20 The One Show: Best of 2013 Hosted by Matt Baker, Alex Jones and Chris Evans Baker, Alex Jones and Chris Evans.

1.50 A Question of Sport:
Christmas Special Festive edition
of the light-hearted quiz, hosted by
Sue Barker. (R) 2.20 Wallace &
Gromit: A Grand Day Out The
animated heroes go to the moon.
(R) 2.45 FILM: WALLE. (2008)
Evan agriculture of the Christman Pixar animated adventure, with the voice of Ben Burtt. ***

Weather.
Celebrity Mastermind

James Allen, David Bradley, Chris Ramsey and Shobu Kapoor answer questions on Roald Dahl,

Max Wall. The Sopranos

and Jack Kerouac's On the Road.
Shrek Forever After

(2010) A magical trickster leaves the grumpy ogre stuck in an alternate world where

no one knows who he

is. Animated comedy, with the voices of Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy and Cameron Diaz.

she catches her sneaking

in after a night with Carl

Billy regrets giving Lucy her job back and Linda is surprised when Shirley

stands up for her.

Mrs Brown's Boys

New Year Special In the second of two festive episodes, the doting

mother gets lumbered with a homeless parrot and throws a New Year's Eve

party which turns out to be

Million Laughs Lenny Henry, Steve Jones and Zoe Ball look back at the

charity event, which featured appearances from David Walliams, Miranda Hart and the return of Ricky

World affairs editor John Simpson, political editor Nick Robinson, home

editor Mark Easton and

contributing editor Bridge Kendall discuss the year's big stories at home and

something of a disaster.

10.30 Comic Relief 2013: 100

Gervais as David Brent. (R)

11.30 BBC News: The Editors

12.00 FILM: Disgrace (2008)
Drama, starring John Malkovich.

** 1.50 Weatherview 1.55 BBC

abroad.

10.10 RRC News 10.25 Regional

9.00 EastEnders Ronnie worries about Roxy when

7.00

7.30

Prime

View

Late

9.30 Mrs

View

The Secret Life of Mary Poppins: A Culture Show Special, 6.30pm

6.00 This Is BBC 2 Preview upcoming programmes. 6.30 Natural World: Komodo - Secrets of the Dragon Bryan Fry explores the nature of the Komodo dragon. (R) 7.30 Sign Zone: The House That £100K Built A newly engaged couple build a home in rural Devon. Last in the series (R) 8.30 Sign Zone: Britain's Empty Homes (R) 9.00 Africa (R) 10.00 Earthflight (R) 11.00 The Great British Bake Off (R) 12.00 The Great British Bake Off The remaining contenders face three bread-making tasks. (R)

1.00 Antiques Road Trip James Lewis and James Braxton begin a new cross-country journey. 2.00
FILM: Ice Station Zebra (1968)
Arctic adventure, starring Rock



compete against the Eggheads in the quiz hosted by Dermot Murnaghan. (R)

The Secret Life of Mary

the private reveals a stubborn streak that costs

of Leicester and the University of Sussex compete, with Sue Cook and Simon Fanshawe among the contestants.

around them.

The Thirteenth Tale A

interviewing a terminally ill writer for a biography. Psychological mystery, starring Olivia Colman.

11.00 Mel Smith: I've Sort of Done Things A celebration of the life and career of the actor, writer and director, who died in lilly at the area of 60. With

and director, who died in
July at the age of 60. With
contributions by Griff Rhys
Jones, John Lloyd, and
Richard Curtis. (R)
12.00 Respect: A Felix Dexter
Special (R) 12.30 FILM: Good Hair
(2009) *** 2.05 Sign Zone:
Imagline – Jimi Hendrix: Hear My
Train a Comin' (R) 3.35 This Is



Daniel Craig heads the cast of Quantum of Solace, 8.30pm

6.00 Daybreak With Emilia Fox 6.00 Daybreak With Emilia Fox.
8.30 Lorraine With Eliza Doolittle.
9.25 Murder, She Wrote Jessica receives shocking news about her tatehusband. (R) 10.25 Dickinson's Real Deal Daydr Dickinson helps people sort this treasures from their trash. (R) 11.25 FILM: The Railway Children (1970) Three Edwardian children are forced to move from London to rural Yorkshire after their London to rural Yorkshire atter their father is wrongfully imprisoned. Period family drama, with Jenny Agutter and Bernard Cribbins. **** 1.35 ITV News and Weather 1.45 ITV News Central; Weather 1.50 Dinner Date Gerry from Essex hopes to find love. (R) 2.50 Christmas Catchphrase Carol Vorderman, Michael Ball and Michelle Collins see it and say it. (R)



Jamie Oliver prepares dishes in Jamie's Festive Feast on at 8.00pm

6.00 The Treacle People 6.00 The Ireacte People Christmas Special (R) 6.20 According to Jim (R) 6.45 Will & Grace (R) 7.10 Will & Grace (R) 7.35 FILM: See Spot Run (2001) Comedy, starring David Arquette and Michael Clarke Duncan. *** 9.20 How I Met Your Mother First ever episode of the sitcom, starring Josh Radnor. (R) 9.50 How I Met Your Mother Ted throws a party. (R) 10.20 The Big Bang Theory (R) 10.50 The Big Bang Theory (R) 11.20 The Simpsons (R) 11.50 The Simpsons (R) 12.20 FiLM: Space Chimps (2008) Animated sci-fi comedy, with the voice of Andy Samberg. ** 2.00 FILM: Coraline (2009) Stop-motion animated fantasy, with the voice of Dakota Fanning, ***





Patrick Swayze heads the cast of Dirty Dancing shown at 9.30pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.50 Inside Hollywood Magazine show. 9.55 The Dog Rescuers (R) 10.25 Britain's Craziest Christmas Lights (R) 11.25 World's Strongest Man 2013 The fourth heat from Haitang Bay in Sanya, China. (R) Trailers Matt Ekins drives a truck to a gallery exhibiting Stobart spotters' photographs. (R) 1.25 Winter Road photographs. (R) 1.25 Winter Road Rescue First of two documentaries following snowplough teams and RAC patrols. (R) 2.25 FILM: The Alamo (1960). A small Texan volunteer force is charged with holding off a 7,000-strong invading Mexican army. Fact-based Western, directed by and starring John Wayne. With Richard Wirlmark *** Widmark. ★★★

The Four Feathers (2002) An officer resigns from the military, earning the disdain of his friends - so he sets out to win back their Ruby's respect. Historical adventure, starring Heath Ledger and Wes Bentley. Edited for violence and language.

> Éddie Stobart: 12 Days of Christmas compilation of the most memorable festive moments from the series following the day-to day work of the haulage company that has road, rail and air divisions. The programme features 12 of the best tales of the firm's employees as they battle the elements, the traffic and the crazy Christmas rush to make sure their

deliveries are on time; (R) 5 News Update World's Strongest Man 2013 James Richardson presents action from the fifth heat from Haitang Bay in Sanya, China, as the remaining two places in the final were decided British duo Eddy Hall and Lloyd Renals were aiming to reach the final for the first time, but faced stiff opposition from the likes of Mike Jenkins and Mikhail Koklyaev; 5 News Update

Dirty Dancing (1987) A dance instructor at a 1960s resort hotel fears his career will be jeopardised when his regular partner is forced to pull out of an important show in which they are due to perform. Luckily, a naive teenager is happy to step in, and is treated to a whirlwind holiday education in life, love and expressing herself. Romantic drama, starring Patrick Swayze, Jennifer Grey and Jerry Orbach. ***

11.35 Jesus Christ Superstar Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's rock musical telling the story of the last week of Christ's life. Starring Ben Forster, Tim Minchin, Melanie C and Chris Movles.

1.50 SuperCasino 3.55 My Post-Baby Breakdown: Jennifer Ellison 4.45 Great Artists (R) 5.10 Nick's Quest (R) 5.35 Wildlife SOS (R)

Mary Poppins (1964) A practically **Poppins** perfect Edwardian nanny with magical powers brings fun into 5.20 Flog It! From London Zoo the humdrum lives of the humdrum lives of two children. Disney's musical fantasy, starring Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke. *** BBC News; Weather. Midlands Today;

6.00 Celebrity Eggheads
Former EastEnders actors
Derek Martin, Carol
Harrison, Shobu Kapoor, Dave Spinx and Jane How

Poppins: A Culture Show Special Victoria Coren Mitchell explores the life of author PL Travers, on whose books the film Mary Poppins was based. With contributions by Emma
Thompson and Cameron

Mackintosh. (R)

Dad's Army Mainwaring finds himself bidding against Pike for an orange at a fundraising bazaar, but the captain dear. Last in the series. (R)

Christmas University

Challenge Teams made up of distinguished graduates of the University

of Britain New series. Neil Oliver investigates the hallowed sites of ancient Britain, looking at how people expressed their religious beliefs by reshaping the landscape

writer is forced to confront her own past while interviewing a terminally ill

Scooby-Doo 2: M o n s t e r s Unleashed (2004) Comedy adventure sequel, with Sarah Michelle Gellar. **

You've Been Framed! & Famous Featuring a 5.35 range of celebrity lookalikes, from Simor Cowell to Byan Giggs (R

Aussie Animal Island As breeding season draws near, the scientists set trans around the island to capture and examine each of the Tasmanian devils to ensure they are healthy

and ready to mate.

ITV News Central;

ITV News and Weather Emmerdale With Megan still in a coma, Charity visits Sam to find out what he said to the police, while Cain shows Moira his romantic side and Kerry plans a party to cheer

Coronation Street Hour-long episode. Peter punches Rob after he makes an innocent makes an innocent comment about Tina, while a devastated Hayley leaves Roy to inform everyone she only has weeks to live. Quantum of Solace

(2008) James Bond sets out on a personal mission of vengeance as he pursues the secret criminal organisation Quantum. His search leads him to the head of an ecological corporation, who is plotting to orchestrate a coup in a Latin American country to get his hands on a precious natural on a precious natural resource. Spy thriller sequel, starring Daniel Craig, Olga Kurylenko, Judi Dench, Gemma Arterton and Mathieu Amalric. ***

10.30 ITV News and Weather;

Weather. 10.45 The Game (1997) A is The Game (1997) A selfish banker gets caught up in a complex psychological game, causing his life to unravel in explosive fashion. David Fincher's thriller, with Michael Douglas and Sean

1.05 Jackpot247 3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA (R) 3.45 ITV Nightscreen 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show (R)

Deal or No Deal
Celebrity Come Dine
with Me With Janice
Dickinson, Calum Best, Jeff Brazier and Sam Fox.

6.00 Hollyoaks loneliness prompts her

turn to drugs once again.

Hollvoaks New Year's 6.30 Hollvoaks New Eve in the village proves eventful when Ziggy inadvertently fuels Ruby's growing drug habit, and a

wager between Robbie and Finn ends in disaster.

Channel 4 News

Gok Does Panto A
behind-the-scenes Christmas special following fashion guru Gok Wan in rehearsals for Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs at the Birmingham

Hippodrome – his pantomime debut. Jamie's Festive Feast 8.00 Jamie Oliver prepares a variety of dishes that are ideal for the lazy winter days between Christmas and New Year, from simple one-pot wonders like bloody Mary beef to winter warmers such as oozy cheesy pasta. Also on the menu are breakfast waffles with hot chocolate, fiesta tacos, and party food to celebrate the arrival of 2014, from posh pork kebabs to Keralan fish

Doggy Styling
Documentary exploring the
extraordinary and
competitive world of
extreme dog grooming,
following a British woman
and her poodle as they
enter a competition in
Pennsylvania 9.00

Pennsylvania. **10.00 Twit of the Year** Leading comedians and prolific celebrity tweeters take a look back at the biggest social-media gaffes and triumphs that got the nation talking in 2013.

11.30 C4's 30 Greatest

Comedy Shows Celebrating some of the station's most impressive comedy series, exploring the impact shows including Father Ted, Spaced and The Inbetweeners have had on British TV, (R) 1.25 FILM: Vampires Suck (2010)

Premiere. Spoof comedy, starring Jenn Proske. * 2.50 Nashville 3.30 90210 4.15 Suburgatory 4.35 Suburgatory 4.35 Countdown (R) 5.40 SuperScrimpers (R)

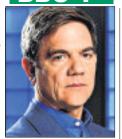
and Miley on tour

KELLY CLARKSON - WRAPPED IN RED

CHRISTMAS MUSIC

It's Kelly in red

New Year's E



Guy attempts to rebuild his relationship in Holby City on at 8.00pm

6.00 Breakfast 9.10 FILM: Bee Movie (2007) Animated comedy, with the voice of Jerry Seinfeld. *** 10.30 FILM: Beverly Hills Chihuahua (2008) A pampered pet dog is stranded in Mexico and needs the help of a brave German shepherd to get back home. Comedy with Piper Perabo, and the Comedy, with Piper Perabo, and the violes of Drew Barrymore and Andy Garcia. * 12.00 Bargain Hunt Searching for antiques in Newark, Nottinghamshire. 1.00 BBC News 1.15 Regional News; Weather. 1.20 FILM: The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian (2008) The four Pevensie children return to the magical land of Narnia to help the rightful king reclaim his throne. Fantasy sequel, starring Ben Barnes and William Moseley. ***

Kung Fu Panda: Secrets of the Furious

Five (R) How to Train Your

Dragon (2010)
Animated comedy, with the voice of Jay Baruchel. ***

BBC News

Midlands

Top of the Pops New

Celebrity Mastermind

Katharine Merry, Sian Reese-Williams and Nick Baker answer questions on

Blur, Aston Villa FC, TV

comedy Black Books and naturalist Alfred Russel

Wallace.
EastEnders Carl invites

Roxy to Paris for the new year, leading to a tense confrontation with Ronnie.

Mick lets Shirley in on the

secret of the mysterious

wedding invitation.

Holby City Guy attempts
to rebuild his relationship
with Zosia, Serena puts on

a brave face after Edward's betrayal and Harry is struggling to forgive Mary-

Two Doors Down A

Scottish couple face a chaotic time as they host a

New Year's Eve party for

their friends. One-off

comedy, starring Arabella Weir, Alex Norton, Daniela Nardini and Doon

star-studded special with

the stars of Anchorman 2.

the Monty Python team comedian Frank Skinne

and sisters Joan and

rounds off the year with a live gig at the Central Hall in London's Westminster,

performing Take That

favourites as well as solo numbers to help bring in

the new year.

11.55 New Year's Eve
Fireworks The people of
London welcome in 2014.

12.10 Gary Barlow's Big Ben
Bash Live 12.30 John Bishop

Live: Rollercoaster Tour (R) 1.50
FILM: Kevin and Perry Go Large
(2000) *** 3.05 Weatherview
3.10 BBC News

Jackie Collins, plus music by Michael Buble; National Lottery Update 11.15 Gary Barlow's Big Ben Bash Live The singer

Mackichan.

10.00 BBC News: Weather The Graham Norton Show Graham hosts a

Claire for her actions.

Today;

Widdicombe.

4.00

5.30

8.00

9.00

BBC 2

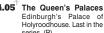


The comedian performs in Dara O Briain – Craic Dealer, 10.30pm

6.00 This Is BBC 2 Preview of upcoming programmes. 6.25 Natural World: Madagascar, Lemurs and Spies The threats facing the rare silky sifaka lemurs. (R) 7.25 FILM: Short Circuit (1986) Sci-fi comedy adventure, starring Steve Guttenberg. ★★★ 9.00 Africa David Attenborough Africa David Attenborough describes the wildlife spectacles of southern Africa. (R) 10.00 Earthflight A bird's-eye view of South America. (R) 11.00 The Great British Bake Off (R) 12.00 The Great British Bake Off The contestants make pies and tarts. (R)

1.00 Antiques Road Trip James

Braxton and James Lewis visit Jersey and Kent. 2.00 FILM: First Knight (1995) Arthurian adventure, starring Richard Gere. ★★★



Flog It! From Oldham, er Manchester. (R)

Greater Mancriester. (17) **6.00 Celebrity Eggheads**Alistair Appleton, Simon Alistair Appleton, Simon O'Brien, Laura Hamilton, Hosted by Dermot Murnaghan. (R) Ed Hall and Angus Purden

Out Documentary looking at the Lancashire seaside resort through the eyes of acts who have performed there, recalling its heyday as a town at the heart of British entertainment. (R) Christmas University

Challenge The last of the first-round heats sees King's College London take on Southampton for a place in the semi-finals. with Rory Bremner and Susan Hill among the contestants.

Weirdest Nature's Events New series. Chris Packham investigates Packham investigates more peculiar natural events, including dogs that commute on the Moscow metro and deadly sharks at a golf course in Australia. Tudor Monastery Farm

Christmas Ruth Goodman, Peter Ginn and Tom Pinfold celebrate Christmas as it would have been done in 1500, making Tudor decorations, engaging in festive revels

and preparing feasts.

10.00 Mock the Week A
Christmas edition of the
comedy quiz featuring
festive films, out-takes from the last series and a

wrapping masterclass from host Dara O Briain.

10.30 Dara O Briain - Craic Dealer The comedian and Mock the Week host in performance at Edinburgh Playhouse in 2012, combining quick-fire gags and set pieces with plenty

of audience interaction. (R)

11.30 Jools' Annual

Hootenanny 2013 Jools Holland brings in the New Year with performances by Ray Davies, Rudimental, the Proclaimers, the Lumineers, Melanie C. Laura Mvula, Haim and

Ruby Turner.

1.30 Glastonbury 2013 Highlights
(R) 3.45 This Is BBC 2



Jason Manford presents 2013: A Funny Old Year shown at 10.15pm

6.00 Davbreak News and 8.30 Lorraine Entertainment and fashion news. 9.25 FILM: Scooby-Doo and the Alien Invaders (2000) Animated adventure, with the voice of Scott Innes. *** 11.00 Dickinson's Real Deal David Dickinson helps people sort the treasures from their trash. (R) 12.00 All Star Family Fortunes With Gino D'Acampo and Michelle Keegan. (R) 12.45 ITV News and Weather 1.05 FILM: The 'Burbs (1989) The arrival of secretive neighbours sparks curiosity in a group of friends, who go to bizarre lengths to learn the truth about them. Joe Dante's black comedy, starring Tom Hanks, Bruce Dern, Carrie Fisher, Corey Feldman and Henry Gibson. ★★★

The Cube: Celebrity Special With Greg Rutherford and a team from

Loose Women. (R)

The Nation's Favourite

Dance Moment The top 20 dance routines as voted

for by viewers. (R)

Off Their Rockers A woman tries to park her mobility scooter between

You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, featuring everything from cute kids and crazy animals to pranks and painfullooking accidents. (R)
ITV News Central;

Weather.
ITV News and Weather Emmerdale The police are instantly suspicious when they see the footage of Sam at Home Farm, Moira prepares for her romantic night away with Cain, and the fancy-dress

parties get under way.

Aussie Animal Island 7.30 The future looks bright for the Tasmanian devils as all eight females prepare to have joeys, making the scientific project a resounding success. Last

in the series.

Mamma Mia! (2008) A bride asks three of her mother's old flames to her wedding to learn which of them is her father. Musical comedy featuring Abba songs, starring Meryl Streep and Pierce Brosnan.

10.10 ITV News 10.15 2013: A Funny Old Year Jason Manford presents a humorous celebration of the highs and lows of the past 12 months, including the royal baby, Andy Murray's Wimbledon victory and the horsemeat scandal.

11.15 Vicious A festive edition of the comedy starring lan McKellen and Derek Jacobi. Freddie and Stuart invite friends round for a Christmas Day celebration at their flat. (R)

at their flat. (R)

11.45 ITV News and Weather
and New Year's Bongs
The headlines, followed by Big Ben.

12.05 FILM: Waterworld (1995) *** 2.15 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA 3.00 ITV Nightscreen 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show (R)



Noel Edmonds hosts Deal or No Deal: Christmas Stars in at 7.00pm

6.00 According to Jim Dana's wedding day arrives. (R) 6.30 Will & Grace (R) 6.55 Will & Grace (R) 7.20 FILM: Little Manhattan (2005)
Romantic drama, starring Josh
Hutcherson and Charlie Ray. ***
8.50 How I Met Your Mother Barney craves excitement, (R) 9.20 How I Met Your Mother (B) 9.45 How I Met Your Mother (R) 9.45. The Big Bang Theory Amy and Wil Wheaton get into a fight while filming Fun with Flags. (R) 10.15. The Big Bang Theory The friends try to solve the mystery of Sheldon's post-lunch activities. (R) 10.50 The Simpsons (R) 11.20 The Simpsons (R) 11.50 FILM: Imagine That 2000). Earthay compedy starting. (2009) Fantasy comedy, starring Eddie Murphy. ** 1.55 FILM: Home Alone 3 (1997) Comedy sequel, starring Alex D Linz. ***

Deal or No Deal Highstakes game show, with Noel Edmonds.

Noel Edmonds.

Celebrity Come Dine
with Me: Footballers
Special With Neil
Ruddock, John Fashanu,
Carlton Palmer and Frank
Worthington. (R)

The Simpsons Homer's
mother dies leaving him

mother dies, leaving him upset over never saying how much he loved her. Determined to make amends, he sets out to fulfil

her final wishes. With the voice of Glenn Close. (R)

Hollyoaks As the new year arrives, Ziggy makes a distressing discovery, John Paul spots a drug-addled Finn climbing the village's arch and Tilly faces a

relationship dilemma Channel 4 N 4 News

Summary
Deal or No Deal:
Christmas Stars Noel Edmonds offers community support office offers lan Taylor the chance to win up to £250,000 in a festive-themed edition of the big-money game show. Celebrity Fifteen to One Adam Hills hosts a

one-off special of the fastpaced quiz, as 15 famous faces including Jonathan Ross, Jo Brand, Fern Britton and Eamonn Holmes compete to win money for charity. (R) Alan Carr's New Year

Specstacular comedian takes over Channel 4 HQ to throw a New Year's Eve party to remember, bringing in 2014 with unpredictable madness, games and guests appearing in various guises. He's joined by James Corden, Keith Lemon, Ben Cohen and Abbey Clancy, and Tinie Tempah and Katy B provide

the music.

11.05 50 Funniest Moments
2013 A countdown of the most hilarious, surprising and sometimes shocking incidents from the past 12 months, with contributions from Danny Dyer, Russell Kane and Helen Flanagan

1.05 Toast of London (R) 1.30 Toast of London (R) 2.00 Toast of London (R) 2.25 Toast of London (R) 2.50 Toast of London (R) 3.20 Toast of London (R) 3.45 Deal or No Deal: Ideal Christmas (R) 4.40 Countdown (R) 5.20 90210



6.00 Milkshake! 9.40 Inside Hollywood 2013 (R) 9.45 The Dog Rescuers A dog is taken into the RSPCA's care as the owners cannot afford the medical bills. (R) 10.15
Michael Buble's Christmas
Special The Canadian crooner performs classic festive songs. (R) 11.15 FII M: Fiddler on the Boot (1971) A poor Jewish milkman in Ukraine hopes to find husbands for ordanie hopes of hild histoards for his three eldest daughters – but they would rather choose for themselves. Musical, starring Topol and Norma Crane. *** 2.50 FILM: Pal Joey (1957) A roguish mightclub singer struggles to cope with the demands of a wealthy socialite and his love for a chorus girl. Musical comedy, with Frank Sinatra, Rita Hayworth and Kim Novak. ★★★

> Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (1954) A cowboy decides to get married, prompting his six hellraising brothers to kidnap brides for themselves. Stanley Donen's musical Western, starring Howard Keel and Jane Powell; ★★★★ 5 News

Update
The Gadget Show Jon Bentley looks back at items that have graced the show over the past 12 months, from Google Glass to the Samsung Galaxy Gear and new consoles Xbox One and PS4. Jason Bradbury and Rachel Riley test three 4K Blu-ray players, which are capable of displaying pictures at four times the quality of normal HD, while Pollyanna Woodward heads to San Francisco to hitch a ride in a replica DeLorean that travels on water. Cast members from Hollyoaks try out gadgets aimed at improving parties; 5 News Update World's Strongest Man

2013 James Richardson presents the final from Haitang Bay in Sanya, China, featuring the 10 qualifiers from the heats. Last in the series.

Greatest Stand Up Comedians A countdown of the 50 funniest people to have performed stand-up routines, including names such as Tommy Cooper, Victoria Wood, Robin Williams, Joan Rivers and Jo Brand. Featuring contributions by Paul Hogan, Ross Noble Tamsin Greig, Christopher Biggins and Richard Pryor's daughter Rain, who each discuss their comedy

heroes. 11.50 The Plank (1967) Two clumsy workmen carry a plank to a building site, causing various mishaps and accidents along the way. Slapstick comedy directed by Eric Sykes, who also stars

directed by Eric Sykes,
who also stars
alongside Tommy
Cooper.★★

12.55 SuperCasino Live interactive
gaming. 3.05 Celebrity Wedding
Planner 3.55 House Doctor (R)
4.20 House Doctor (R) 4.45 Great
Artists (R) 5.10 Great Scientists
(R) 5.35 Wildlife SOS (R)



It was almost inevitable that 2009 Britain's Got Talent runner-up Susan Boyle would release a Christ-

While Kelly Clarkson will be wrapped in red (see review) While Note: Wrapped in red (see review)
Miley Cyrus (pictured) will be
wrapped in who knows what
as she brings her Bangerz
tour to the UK.

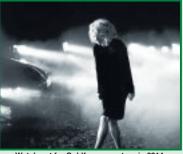
would release a Christmas album, given her global success. Home For Christmas, her fifth release, features a novel duet with an Elvis Preselver commend of the Scottish songstress. Boyle's beautiful voice is perfectly suited for simple carols but is clouded rather than enhanced by swelling strings and backing choirs on Technical Song and Miracle Hymn, the sole original track taken from her upcoming film, The Christmas Candle. Typically Su-Bo, Home For Christmas is a good stocking filler.

Rating: 6/10 (Review by Natalie Bowen)

On The Road

• Miley Cyrus will bring her Bangerz tour to the UK. The Wrecking Ball singer will kick off the five shows at London's O2 Arena on May 6 before heading to Leeds, Glasgow, Manchester and Birmingham. Tickets will go on sale at 9am on December 13 on www.cap-italfm.com.

● Goldfrapp are set to embark on a nine-date UK tour in 2014. Alison Goldfrapp and Will Gregory will start the live shows at Birmingham's Symphony Hall on March 26, before heading to Salford, Brighton, Portsmouth, Bristol, Reading, Glasgow, York and Gateshead. Tickets are available from 10am on December 13 on www.gigsandtours.com.



Watch out for Goldfrapp - on tour in 2014

LEONA LEWIS - CHRISTMAS, WITH LOVE

LEONA LEWIS - CHRISTMAS, WITH LOVE
Everyone knows Leona Lewis as The X Factor winner
with the big voice, so it's no surprise the stand-out tracks
on this Christmas album are the songs that match that
talent. O Holy Night, Ave Maria and Silent Night are
beautiful renditions of classics, her versions atmospheric
and haunting from the first note until the last. Bringing
more Christmas cheer is a very merry track called One
More Sleep, which will have everyone rocking around
their tree by the end. Tracks which may invite the skip
button include Mr Right and Christmas (Baby Please
Come Home), but back on form are Lewis's version of
White Christmas and I Wish It Could Be Christmas Everyday. All in all though, despite one or two crackers, Lewis's
album is a few party hats short of a festive fiesta.

Rating: 5/10 Rating: 5/10

(Review by Catherine Wylie)

KIM WILDE - WILDE WINTER SONGBOOK

KIM WILDE - WILDE WINTER SONGBOOK
KIM Wilde, Britain's foremost green-fingered erstwhile
princess of 1980s pop, joined the ranks of overnight internet video sensations when a stranger filmed her serenading London Underground passengers with her smash Kids
In America, after what presumably was a very fun Christmas party. It was as unlikely a guerrilla gig as they come
and the clip-on antlers made for first-class accessorising.
Two million YouTube views later and the 53-year-old
returns, rolling the pop calendar back a generation to duet
with Rick Astley on Winter Wonderland, and to pair up
with Nik Kershaw on Rockin' Around The Christmas
Tree. Wilde, dad Marty and brother Ricky even get stuck
into Fleet Foxes's White Winter Hymnal. It's delicious
fun, and in party season that is all that matters.
Rating: 8/10
(Review by John Skilbeck)

BOOKS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Star footballer or rock legend

For gripping thrillers on these dark December nights, there's plenty of choice out there. If you fancy something more factual, there are also new biographies of footballing genius Messi and rock legend Lou Reed. Here, we take a look at just a few of the new books on offer.

RECOMMENDED BOOK

RECOMMENDED BOOK
Messi by Guillem Balague is published in hardback
by Orion, priced £20 (ebook £6.99). Available now.
The extraordinary rise of Lionel Messi has been captured in a mammoth £28 pages by top Spanish football
journalist, Guillem Balague.
Having previously written about Messi's former
Barcelona manager Pep Guardiola, Balague is well placed
to offer his take on arguably the greatest talent of the 21st
century.

to offer his take on arguably the greatest talent of the 21st century.

He begins, where it all started, with a shy, minuscule child showing off his skills at a trial by the behemoth club, despite being born and raised over 6,000 miles away near Rosario, Argentina.

Balague captures the atmosphere, the strangeness of the environment, and the moment the smallest kid on the pitch is transformed into a giant simply by placing a ball at his feet.

Natural autobiographical chronology explores Messi's happy childhood, where he grew up and the challenges faced when a 'barely' teen catapulted into an alien environment.

There's also a note of the controversial and expensive growth hormone treatment which was administered to Messi, and which saw him develop physically in a matter of months.

of months.

Of course, we also map his football career, for club and country, and the challenges he's faced as his reputation grew worldwide.

What impresses most about the writing here is the wealth of people Balague has been granted access to, and the varying styles he utilises with the interviewees - be it family, friend, famous footballer or personality.

This biography is a very worthy footnote to one of the game's undoubted greats.

9/10 (Review by James Cleary)

CHILDREN'S BOOK CHOICE
The Invisible Kingdom by Rob Ryan is published in hardback by Hutchinson, priced £16.99. Available now.
Best known for his charming paper cut outs, artist Rob Ryan adds another string to his considerable bow with The Invisible Kingdom, the first in a trilogy of children's books.
Like his contractions and the contraction of the con

books.

Like his artworks, this beautiful
book is full of his trademark gorgeous illustrations and sentimental
messages and tells the story of a
lonely young prince who becomes
king when his father dies. His only
friend in the palace is a kindly bootman who gives the woung king a pen man who gives the young king a pen with invisible ink and a special torch so that he can draw his own world on his curtain at night time. But soon he discovers a route into the real world, where he escapes



the real world, where he escapes every night, taking a special key given to him by his father on his deathbed, engraved with the words 'My child, do not fear. I will always be here'.

This is a stunning book, packed with thoughtful meditations on life and death.

7/10

(Review by Keeley Bolger)

NON-FICTION

Lou Reed: The Life by Mick Wall is published in hardback by Orion, priced £14.99 (ebook £7.99). Available now. That Lou Reed's death in October came as a surprise was itself surprising. Famous chiefly for some astounding records, but also for his time as a sixties and seventies poster boy for the perils of drug abuse, mere survival had somehow turned Reed into a sober elder statesman of rock. Mick Wall has written biographies of rock legends before, but generally at greater length than this "sincere, speed-written, blood-spattered tribute".

The rush does show in the writing, but a slim volume suits a sub-

ing, but a slim volume suits a subject whose output was so profoundly patchy. If the oft-told tales are all here, some lesser known patches of Reed's life are also illuminated.

Wall is admiring, but never sycophantic, and doesn't try to obscure Reed's ingratitude, contrariness or

This is not one of the great music biographies, but the all too often, Reed didn't make great music.

7/10

(Review by Alex Sarll)

NEW FICTION
Always Watching by Chevy Stevens is published in paperback original by Sphere, priced £6.99 (ebook £3.49).
Available now.

Available now.

Too many children in the world have awful upbringings, but there are some, like Nadine Lavoie, whose backgrounds are so bad, their mind shuts out the memory until someone or something comes along to trigger it.

This is a harrowing story about Dr. Nadine Lavoie, a doctor in a psychiatric unit who takes comfort in helping those in need. This gives an insightful look into a world that many of us are not aware of.

8/10

(Review by President)

8/10 (Review by Emily Pawson)

New Year's Day



Phil helps Ronnie in her battle against Carl in EastEnders, 8.00pm

6.00 Breakfast 9.00 FILM: The Ant Bully (2006) Animated adventure, with the voice of Julia Pabada 4 10.20 FILM: Who Framed Roger Rabbit (1988) Comedy mixing live action and animation, starring Bob Hoskins. **** 11.55 Polar Bear: Spy on the Ice (R) 12.45 The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message By the Most Rev Justin Welby. 12.50 BBC News 1.00 Regional News; Weather. 1.05 Gangsta Granny Family comedy, starring Julia McKenzie. (R) 2.15 FILM: The Sound of Music (1965) A cheerful novice nun brings joy into the lives of seven children when she becomes their governess. Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, starring Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer. ****

Kung Fu Panda 2 (2011) Premiere. The martial arts master panda defends his

home from an evil

peacock he has a mysterious link with. Animated comedy sequel, with the voices

of Jack Black and Gary

Gnomeo & Juliet (2011) Premiere. Two garden gnomes fall in love, but their romance

is threatened by a feud between their gardens. Animated comedy, with

the voices of James McAvoy and Emily Blunt, ***

EastEnders Phil helps

Ronnie in her battle against Carl, and Mick shocks

Linda by announcing they have been invited to their

daughter's wedding. Tina creeps out after her night

with Billy, and Denise and Masood struggle to remember their drunken

Sherlock New series.

Two years on from reports of his Reichenbach Fall

demise. Holmes resurfaces

as London comes under threat of a huge terrorist attack. Watson, though,

has mixed feelings - he's

delighted by the return of his best friend, but harbours worries that the

consulting detective's reappearance will have an

adverse affect on his settled domestic life, in particular his romance with

Mary Morstan, Modern

reimagining of Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes detective stories

starring Benedict Cumberbatch and Martin Freeman, with Una Stubbs and Rupert Graves.

10.25 BBC News
10.40 Regional News;

10.50 Match of the Day Gary

St Mary's Stadium; National Lottery Update 12.20 The Graham Norton Show (R) 1.20 Weatherview 1.25 BBC

Late

Lineker presents Premier

League highlights, including Manchester United v Tottenham Hotspur at Old Trafford and

Southampton v Chelsea at

actions.

Today:

BBC News Midlands

6.45

8.00

9.00

EW



The Many Faces of tanley Baxter show at 10.00pm

6.00 This Is BBC 2 6.50 Natural

World: Zambezi The wildlife of Africa's wildest river. (R) 7.50 FILM: Flight of the Navigator (1986) Sci-fi adventure, starring Joey Cramer. *** 9.15 The Great British Bake Off The contestants

prepare biscuits and traybakes. (R) 10.15 The Great British Bake Off The remaining contestants face three tasks involving sweet dough.

(R) 11.15 New Year's Day Concert Daniel Barenboim conducts the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra's traditional event. 12.40 The Many Faces of Michael Caine The actor

reminisces about his movie career.

(R) 1.20 FILM: The Eagle Has Landed (1976) Second World War spy adventure, starring Michael Caine. ***

Final Score
The Archbishop of
Canterbury's New Year
Message (R)
Christmas University

Challenge The first of the

semi-finals.
The Terminal (2004) 5.55 An Eastern European en route to America is stranded after a coup in his homeland, but makes a life for himself in JFK Airport, Comedy starring Tom Hanks and Catherine Zeta-Jones.

8.00 Nature's Weirdest Events Chris Packham investigates reports of fish "walking" out of the water in Florida, bees in France that are ma multicoloured honey, making trees oozing a blood-red

Glasgow: Big Night Out Glaswegian entertainer Stanley Baxter looking at his home city through the eyes of acts who have performed there and the audiences who

went to see them. 10.00 The Many Faces of Stanley Baxter A profile of the Glaswegian entertainer, whose TV huge drew audiences in the 1970s and 80s. With contributions from Michael Grade, Barry

Cryer, Bill Oddie and Gregor Fisher. (R)

11.00 The Sarah Millican Slightly Longer Christmas Television Programme Extended edition. The comedienne is joined by her all-time favourite TV personality Phillip Schofield and acts out a scene with Call the Midwife stars Judy Parfitt

11.40 The Resident (2011) Premiere. A doctor moves into a spacious

apartment, but realises apartment, but realises her landlord is dangerously obsessed with her. Horror, with Hilary Swank, Jeffrey Dean Morgan and Christopher Lee **

1.05 FILM: Shadow of the Vampire (2000) Horror, starring Willem Dafoe and John Malkovich. ★★★ 2.25 This Is BBC 2



Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 shown at 8.00pm

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Badou. (R) 6.10 Babar and the Adventures of Badou (R) 6.20 Almost Naked Animals (R) 6.40 Almost Naked Animals (R) 6.50 Horrid Henry (R) 7.05 Horrid Henry (R) 7.20 Om Nom Stories (R) 7.25 Share a Story: The Winners' Journey (R) 7.55 Bottom Knocker Street (R) 8.10 Bottom Knocker Street (R) 8.25 Dinner Date (R) 9.25 Murder, She Wrote (R) 10.25 FILM: Columbo Goes to College (1991) *** 12.20 Dickinson's Real Dea David Dickinson helps people sort the treasures from their trash. (R) 1.25 ITV News and Weather 1.50 FILM: Uncle Buck (1989) Family comedy, starring John Candy and Macaulay Culkin. ***



Jimmy Carr hosts Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2013 shown at 10.20pm







Comedy in An Audier with Ken Dodd shown at 9.00pm

6.00 Milkshake! 8.45 FILM 6.00 Milkshakel 8.45 FILM: Thomas & Friends: King of the Railway – The Movie (2013) Premiere. Animated adventure, with the voice of Ben Small. ** 9.55 Inside Hollywood Magazine show. 10.10 The Dog Rescuers RSPCA inspectors find two dogs being kept in atrocious conditions. (R) 10.40 World's Strongest Man 2013 The fifth and final heat from Haitang Bay fifth and final heat from Haitang Bay in Sanya, China. (R) 11.40 World's Strongest Man 2013 The final from Haitang Bay in Sanya, China. (R) 12.40 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers A motorway accident forces Andy Thornton to take huge detour. (R) 1.40 FILM: The Glenn Miller Story (1954) Musical Phonic starring lames Stewart and biopic, starring James Stewart and June Allyson. ★★★

becomes Krusty's new assistant, but soon outshines him and earns her own TV show. Meanwhile, Homer and Bart bond over their new hobby - coin collecting. (R) Big (1988) A boy is

magically transported into the body of a 30-year-old man and applies his childlike brain to the problems of adult life. Comedy, starring Tom Hanks and Elizabeth

Edited for language.

*** David Blaine: Real or 9.00 Magic The illusionist performs mind-boggling tricks for a host of celebrities, including Hollywood Alisters Jamie Foxx and Will Smith, and musicians Katy Perry, Lenny Kravitz and Kanye West. Breaking Bad stars Bryan Cranston and Aaron Paul. House actress Olivia Wilde, actor-comedian Ricky Gervais and scientist Stephen Hawking are also suitably astonished. Blaine then travels the world treating members of the general public to more

2013 Jimmy Carr poses questions about the major events of the year to Jack Whitehall, Jonathan Ross, Dara O Briain, Kristen Schaal, Noel Fielding and

Memorandum (1966) Spy thriller, starring George Segal. *** 4.05 Deal or No Deal: Ideal Christmas Noel Edmonds hosts a festive-themed edition. (R) 5.00 themed edition. (R) 5.00 Countdown (R) 5.40 Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard (R)

Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes (1984) A man raised by apes after his shipwrecked parents are killed is helped by an explorer to return to England and claim his birthright. Drama, with Christopher Lambert and Ian Holm. Edited for

violence. ***

The Dam Busters
(1954) The story of the
destruction of the major dams in Germany's industrial heartland in the Ruhr valley in 1943, a mission that seemed impossible until engineer and scientist Barnes Wallis came up with the ingenious idea of bouncing bombs, and the pilots of 617 and the pilots of 617
Squadron were trained
to fly the crucial mission.
Second World War
drama, with Michael
Redgrave, Richard
Todd and Basil Sydney.
(b/w) ****
5 News

5 News

An Audience with Ken Dodd Comedy and entertainment from the Liverpudlian comedian, in a programme originally aired in 1994 to mark his 40th year in showbusiness. Among the audience helping him celebrate are James Fox and Warren Mitchell, actress Mollie Sugden, TV presenter Carol Vorderman, former glamour model
Samantha Fox, magician
Paul Daniels and fellow
stand-up Frank Carson. (R)

10.55 An Audience with Cliff

Richard Another Level, Elaine Paige, Chicken Shed and Vincenzo La Scola join the evergreen singer on stage to sing a selection of his greatest hits before an audience of showbiz friends, peers and admirers. Cliff also joins forces with the Capital Voices Choir to perform The Millennium Prayer and indulges in outrageous antics with Les Dennis and Bobby Davro. (R)

12.35 Michael Buble's Christmas

Special (R) 1.40 SuperCasino 3.05 Monster Moves (R) 3.55 House Doctor (R) 4.20 House Doctor (R) 4.45 Great Artists (R) 5.10 Great Scientists (R) 5.35 Wildlife SOS (R)

50 Greatest Harry Potter Moments Robbie Coltrane narrates a countdown of the movie franchise's best scenes including magical mysteries and tragic

deaths. (R)
The Illusionists A magic

show at Hammersmith's Apollo theatre. (R) ITV News and Weather Emmerdale Charity's plot to frame Sam seems to be working, while he and Rachel make plans, unaware of what is brewing. Moira hides disappointment about her romantic night with Cain.

Coronation Street Tina

arrives for work in a foul mood and is disturbed when Peter turns up with Carla and acts like nothing has happened. Hayley

has happened. Hayley decides to visit the pub while she is still able to. Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 (2011)
Premiere. The young wizard continues his search for the artifacts. search for the artefacts containing fragments of the dark lord Voldemort's soul. Time is running out, as the evil sorcerer is aware of Harry's mission, and marshals his forces for a final, devastating attack on Harry and his friends at Hogwarts school. Conclusion of the fantasy saga, with Daniel Radcliffe, Ralph

Daniel Radcliffe, Ralph Fienens, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson and Alan Rickman. ****

10.30 ITV News and Weather Jason Manford presents a humorous celebration of the highs and lows of the past 12 months including past 12 months, including the royal baby, Andy Murray's Wimbledon victory and the horsemeat scandal. (R)

scandal. (R)

11.50 The Jonathan Ross
Show The host is joined
by naturalist David
Attenborough, comedian
John Bishop, chef Jamie
Oliver, actor Ray Winstone
and TV farmer Jimmy
Doherty, and Susan Boyle provides the music (R)

12.55 Jackpot247 3.00 FILM: Training Day (2001) Thriller, starring Denzel Washington. **** 5.00 ITV Nightscreen 5.05
The Jeremy Kyle Show (R) The Simpsons Lisa

4.10

Channel 4 News
The Karate Kid
(2010) An American
youngster goes to live in
China with his mother,
where he becomes an outsider and falls foul of the local bullies. He receives help from the kindly school caretaker, who turns out to be a kung fu master and offers to train the boy to defend himself. Martial arts drama, with Jaden Smith and Jackie Chan

feats of magic. 10.20 Big Fat Quiz of the Year Richard Avoade, (R)

12.20 FILM: Alien (1979) Sci-fi horror, starring Sigourney Weaver.

**** 2.20 FILM: The Quiller

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www.hallsgb.com



This spacious detached bungalow benefits from a view over the cul de sac and over Oswestry town, with private rear gardens and three bedrooms.

- Master Bedroom With En-Suite
- & Dressing Room
 Gas CH & UPVC DG
 In Need Of Slight Modernisation
 Garden To Front & Rear
 Detached Garage & Parking
 Current EPC Rating D
- Hampton Fields, Oswestry Price: £249,950

Contact Oswestry



This newly built property has its NHBC guarantee until December 2018 is sympathetically designed to mirror the original Tithe Barn which stood on the site in the 1600's.

- 3 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite) Garage With Useful First Floor Ideal Potential Annex South Facing Side Garden Parking
- Parking Current EPC Rating C
- Tithe Barn, Llansilin Price: £249,950

Contact Oswestry



Long Croft, Weston Rhyn Price: £210,000

This immaculate detached four bedroom family home must be viewed to be appreciated. With views overlooking to fields and woodland in the distance, this property is situated in a popular quiet area.

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite) Gas CH & UPVC DG
- Gardens Garage & Parking L Mile From A483 Current EPC Rating C
- Contact Oswestry

01588 638755 01562 820880



This 1920's detached double fronted family home offers spacious accommodation and four acres of land or thereabouts.

- . 5 Bedroom Property
 2 Reception Rooms
 Three Garden Stores
 Approx 4 Acres Of Land
 In Need Of Some Updati
 Current EPC Rating G
- Bachia Cottage, Llanfyllin Price: £399,950

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- Parking Village Location Current EPC Rating E

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Lower Chirk Bank, Chirk Bank

Oswestry Road, Whittington

Price: £139,950

Price: £199,950

Ellesmere Welshpool





Tedsmore Road, West Felton Price: £499,950

Situated in a most sought after rural location this spacious detached property must be viewed to be appreciated. The property has been extended and now provides two living aniarters. quarters.

- 5 Bedroom
 Superb Kitchen Family Room
 Dating Back to Late 1800s
 Substantial Property
 Views To All Elevations
 Current EPC Rating E

Contact Oswestry



Guinevere Close, Oswestry

A well presented three bedroom semi detached property situated in a cul-de-sac position enjoying gas fired central heating, UPVC double glazing, UPVC fascias and soffits, garage and gardens. gardens.

- 3 Bedrooms
 3 Bedrooms
 Garage & Parking
 Gardens To Front & Rear
 Gas CH
 UPVC DG, Fascias & Soffits
 Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Wagoners Cottage, Pontfaen, Chirk Price: £249,950

Whitchurch

01691 670320 01948 663230

Contact Oswestry

www.hallsgb.com



The Old Rectory

The Grade II listed Old Rectory is a substantial late Georgian/Regency house, with a self contained annexe. It incorporates many delightful architectural features including fine architraves, ceiling cornices and original open fireplaces. Today the Old Rectory offers comfortable well-appointed accommodation. Care has been taken to maintain many attractive period features. Built in 1814 and in the style of a Tuscan Villa the original house was designed by Joseph Bromfield, a noted Shrewsbury architect who designed and worked on a number of important houses in Shropshire and North wales. EPC;F



The Berwyn Mill

This stunning and immaculately restored 18th Century water mill is situated in an Area of outstanding natural beauty, close to the popular major hubs of Chester and Wirexham. The Mill occupies an idyllic rural position amongst 3 acres of terraread woodland incorporating a landscaped garden and three peaceful woodland walks. EPC: C



Uwch Y Llan

An award winning barn conversion, completely surrounded by its 33 acres of grounds, boasting a wealth of character and charm with magnificent, far reaching views. This truly stunning barn conve converted by the current owner, is definitely a one off, with an abundance of exposed beams and vaulted ceilings including 2 impressive cruck frames. The well-proportioned character accommodation has been thoughtfully designed to make the most of the breath-taking views which can be enjoyed from most of the rooms. EPC Rating: D

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 Spacious 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached Property situated in the village of St Martins

- Large Conservatory/Family Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room
 Utility, Cloakroom, Lounge,
 3 Bedrooms and Bathroom, gated driveway and detached garage
 Good size rear garden. Gas C/H and uPVC D/G. EPC Rating D





- Ent Hall, Lounge, Dining/Sitting Rm, Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Cellar Master Bedroom with En-Suite Shower Room 2 further Double Bedrooms and large Family Bathroom
- In an elevated position, rear garden extending to approx. 80 feet
 Gas Central Heating. EPC Rating E







Deceptively spacious Detached Cottage close to the centre of St

Martins

Ent Hall, Dining Rm, Lounge, Living Rm, Breakfast Kitchen, Utility

Master Bedroom with En-Suite & adjoining Balcony

2 further Bedrooms and Family Balcony

Country of the Bedrooms and Family Balcone of the angle of the Bedrooms and Family Balcone of the angle of the Bedrooms and Family Balcone of the angle of the Bedrooms and Family Balcone of the angle of the Bedrooms and Family Balcone of the angle of the Bedrooms and Family Balcone of the angle of the Bedrooms and Bedr

 Detached garage block with adjoining study and low maintenance Gas fired central heating and ample off-road parking. EPC Rating D

Fully modernised to the highest of standards views over open countryside
 Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge, recently fitted Kitchen
 2 Double Bedrooms and a recently fitted Bathroom

Good size plot with off-road parking & 2 useful outbuildings
 Gas C/H, uPVC D/G. EPC Rating E





A spacious 4 Bedroom Semi-Detached Property

- Ent Hall, Lounge, Open Plan Kitchen/Dining Room
 Utility, Cloaks & Conservatory
 4 Bedrooms and a Family Bathroom, single garage & driveway
 D/G and Gas C/H. EPC Rating D



- Weston Rhyn
- Entrance Hall, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Cloakroom
 4 Excellent Bedrooms and a Family Bathroom.
 Oil fired C/H, uPVC double glazing and spacious gardens. EPC Rating



- A well presented 3 bedroom semi-detached property
 Entrance Hall, Lounge, Cloakroom, modern Kitchen/Dining Room
 3 Bedrooms (Master Ensuite), 2 further Bedrooms and Family Bathroom
 Private rear garden with a decked area and raised patio and off road
- double glazing and gas fired central heating throughout. EPC







- Private rear garden together with a large side garden
 Which could accommodate an extension to the property (subject to





A most comfortably appointed and well located Mid Terraced House
Entrance Hall, Sitting Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room
Cloakroom, Two Excellent Bedrooms, Fully tiled Bathroom

- Lawned gardens to fore & enclosed lawned garden with borders to rear
 Double glazing, gas fired central heating. Car Parking. EPC Rating C





- approximately 292 sq ft situated in the centre of the busy bo Chirk. An excellent opportunity to purchase a shop unit extending to
- The property forms part of a recently completed development and benefits from a shop area with window frontage, a kitchen area and a Disabled WC.
- The unit should be of interest to those looking to set up a new business or relocating an existing business. Alternatively it would make an excellent investment opportunity.







- A rare opportunity to purchase a spacious Detached Family Home
 The property was constructed in 2009 to the highest standards.
 Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Kitchen, Utility
- Integral Garage, Master Bedroom (en-suite), 3 further Bedrooms &
- The large rear garden has been extensively landscaped whilst there is a smaller garden & driveway to the front. D/G. Gas C/H. EPC Rating C





- A Brand New Detached 4 Bedroom Family Home
- A full 10 year NHBC Guarantee & carpeting throughout
 Cloaks, Large Lounge, Fitted Kitchen with Integrated Appliances
 Separate Dining Area, Conservatory, Utility
 4 Excellent Bedrooms (master en-suite) & Luxury Family Bathrm

- Ample parking, deceptively spacious rear garden & patio area
 Gas C/H. D/G. Predicted Energy Assessment B







- Century situated in the charming namiet of Great Ness with excellent views over rolling countryside

 Sympathetically restored and extended by the current owners to create a spacious family home yet retaining a host of original features. Mature well stocked gardens & offer the perfect back drop

 Lounge, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility & Shower Room. 3
- large bedrooms & Family Bathroom, a further 2 Bedrooms and a Study





- An Executive Family Home situated on the exclusive Morda Close
- Gevelopment

 Entrance Hall with Lounge, Dining Room, large Kitchen/Breakfast Room with adjoining Utility Room and Cloaks

 Master Bedroom with En-Suite & Guest Bedroom with En-Suite.

 2 Bedrooms & Study and a large Family Bathroom

 Large private landscaped gardens. Ample parking and Double Garage

- block with room above which could be utilized for a number of use





- A well presented 2 bedroom Mid-Terrace Property close to the centre of the towr
- the town

 Lounge, well fitted Kitchen/Dining Room with patio doors leading to the garden

 2 Bedrooms and a fitted Bathroom

 Recently fitted decked area, lawned garden, garden shed & parking

 All fitted blinds, curtain poles & light fittings are included.

- Gas C/H and D/G EPC Rating C

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MJ Designs offer top quality work, as well as competitive prices - to upgrade a tired looking room or to rearrange a room to suit your personal needs.

With over 20 years experience behind him, Mick has for the last four years been designing kitchens, bedrooms and bathrooms exclusively for his own company, MJ Designs (Shrops) Ltd. Having spotted a clear niche for high quality and good workmanship at affordable prices, Mick and Sue have been busy building a very solid reputation in Shropshire and the surrounding area.

Because of lower overheads, MJ Designs can offer a quality product at a more competitive price, with time-served top-quality workmen who will fit, tile, plaster and carry out any necessary electric or gas works. Only approved and qualified workmen are used on all their jobs.

Mick will visit you in your home at your convenience to measure and design your dream room, at no cost or obligation (other than maybe a cup of tea!). He uses the latest computer software and

you will be able to visualise your kitchen, bedroom or bathroom with the 3D images. Mick will quote you a supply-only or fitted price on the spot.

Mick's approach is very friendly and there is no pressure to make same-day decisions. Please call Mick or Sue at MJ Designs on 01952 401650 or 07974 392401. Please visit our website: www.mjdesignsshropshire.co.uk

Our Top Tip is: Ensure you have a top Quality Fitter installing your Kitchen, Bathroom or Bedroom.... Talk to Mick



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special to love me. Tel No: 0906 500 3724

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Seeking gent, 30-40 for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3724

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Seeking gent, 30-40 for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3724

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MARIA gorgeous outgoing bbw 27, good fun, caring, romantic, looking for that special someone to share life with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408733 🗒

KIM attractive single lady new to area looking for meet new friends and maybe a new love interest. I have many hobbies and am interesting to know, pls call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408489

TAYLOR attractive very busty curvy black female looking for fun times with open-minded male who is also looking for fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408311 🖔 48YR old attractive female seeking local fun maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 403947

TRACY slim dark haired beauty, petite hardworking career, enjoys dancing, nights out, WLTM loving male who can make me laugh for an adult relationship.

Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409419

SHARON very attractive British black lady, sexy size 6 looking for white male to fall in love with. Beautiful people can be lonely too. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 4005636

dressing up and married, seeks discreet man for casual meetings. Can travel anywhere. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1961

MID naughty forties female looking fun, thrills and discreet meets, give me a call, you won't be disappointed. Any age with own accommodation. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409109

Any age, pls contact me, I'm very lonely. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408505

No: 409151 B Box No: 394106 Table A Box No: 394106 Seeking Nor Prince Charming, must be selting and possess the ability to fall in love, 21/4/5, loves to enjoy life, have lots of fungent 30-7/5 for fun times only, discretion and be spoilt, give me a call. Any age looks and status. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401853 Suza No: 401853 Suza No: 401853 Suza No: 401911 Suza No: 409101 Suza Retarding No: 409101

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It im Jo, first timer, newly divorced perfect size 10, blonde, attractive, tactile and looking to fall in love again. Age unimportant, dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407113

SUSIE 32yr old nurse who likes cosy rights in with a good bottle of wine and spending quality times with great company, if you feel the same pls get in touch. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407025 BETHANY 25yr old blonde, slim size 10 touch. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407025 BBABS 27yrs slender with dark haired passionate Italian who loves to dance, ead out, looking for nice ny male to spendin, employed, looking for nice ny male to spending the male to s



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frolics, weekends away and lots of excitement with reliable male, discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407603 ₽

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ANITA very attractive black female, seeking mature white/Asian man to enjoy uncomplicated relationship with no ties.

JANE attractive, seeking male for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 403807

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JENNY single independent attractive lady.

JENNY single independent attractive lady.

Tell and leggy, sensual and looking for very DEBS 37yr old professional, outgoing, special mate friend. Only genuine callers bubbly, seekling genuine man for good pls. Tell No: 9096 500 374 Box No: times infout and just see where it leads. Single dad welcome. Tell No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407039 §

408877 B

BABS 27yrs slender with dark haired passionate Italian who loves to dance, eat sufficient, employed, looking for similar sufficient, employed, looking for similar sufficient and search male for honeful lit.



LINDA bored housewife wanting to spice things up a bit looking for clean well mannered professional for discreet adult meets. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 406705 ©

enjoys arts, wining/dining, sight seeing, country walks, seeks special male to enjoy great fun with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 406765

LIZ 42, black, divorced, seeking male. 44-54 for kind, sincere, honest, open relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 400949

The Host stemale who enjoys evenings in/out looking for someone to have some fun and hopefully get close to, go on, give me a ring. Tel No: 9905 500 3724 Box No: 407019 €

NICKY loving caring gorgeous fun young lady who loves swimming, dancing and lots more, seeking male for text chats and fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407459 §

male. T 384852

JANE 48vrs West Midlands, likes meals

out, cinema, theatre, looking for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 403949

BI ACK female 32vrs 38dd very curv

sensual and looking for discreet fun with

no strings or complications, any age, looks or status. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:

SHAZ 33 easygoing voluptuous black female with lovely smile and personality to match, loves music, keeping fit and looking good, WLTM appreciative guy Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 404819

plus who knows how to look after a lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407787

PAM 71, feels younger, lots to give, socialising, theatre, country walks, charity work, seeking male to share interests with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407851

LOVING caring young 67yr old female, 5ft sensual ar sclars, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart or status. male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No: 0906 500 405269 \$\exists\$

HEATHER larger than life, cuddly built lady, scrubs up pretty well, employed, OHAC, GSOH, looking for good times with willing male, fun times guaranteed. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407307 ₿ TRACY 35yr old blonde petite single mum, WLTM tall male for nights out, text chats and hopefully Itr. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407215

CHRISTINA 38 very pretty petite trainee nurse looking for N/S male companionship to enjoy meals/drinks out, leading to more maybe. Age/looks and status unimportant. CAROLINE attractive, kind, caring, 43, Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 405243 seeking kind, caring male for LTR, 45-50.

The No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 405243 Box No: 405243 Seeking kind, caring male for LTR, 45-55 DONNA 42yrs young separated female Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 396837 DEBJE sexy size 14, fun, outgoing attractive, blonde and raring to get going come on don't keep me waiting! Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 406341 No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 406341

PAT 67, attractive, likes reading, holidays,

No: 405985

RETIRED lady, seeks gent for friendship maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 405985

RETIRED lady, seeks gent for friendship and outings, holidays etc. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 392936

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11ins, OHAC, WLTM male, 45-65, 6ft plus for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 MATURE male, lonely, no ties, attractive likes TV, reading, walks, holidays, meals

DEBBIE sexy size 14, fun, outgoing, discreet, looking for fun times only with male over 40yrs, call to find out more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 398759

SINGLE cuddly female, 5ft 6ins, green NICKY lonely 39yr old single mum looking eyes, seeks male, 40-50 for fun and more. for adult companionship and strictly no Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 406015 strings fun. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 for adult companionship and strictly no strings fun. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 399189

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MAURICE Shropshire farmer, 43, seeks farming lady of any age to share the good things in life with view to LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 374021

YOUNG looking 50's male, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408177

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3724 Box No: 407811

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MALE 51, seeks lady to spoil and pamper 3724 Box No: 407811

to sincere remain with pulld male, 41, seeking a relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 382997

NO: 440683

NO: 440683

MALE 41, honest, caring, seeks female eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with have GSOH. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box SOH and genuine. Tel No: 0906 500 No: 407677

3724 Box No: 388372

ALAN retired professional, well travelled

TONY 55, dark hair, 6ft, confident, pleasant lifestyle, seeks slim, attract outgoing, seeks mature, attractive female, N/S lady, 48-60 for LTR and romance. 68 plus, genuine ad. Tel No: 0906 500 No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408989

3724 Box No: 409159

GENT 55, slightly mad, but not bad,

Athletic, seeks good natured, intelligent female, 50-57 for friendship, Tel No: 0906 WLTM similar lady for friendship, maybe 500 3724 Box No: 408991 0 wore. likes music, the outdoors and esting

LONELY male, 55, seeks Indian/Jamaican female, 25 plus for sincere relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408957 male to make me feel gorgeous Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No:

MARK 44, 6ft, dark hair, businessman.

interesting, seeking sporty female for meals out, day trips, country walks etc. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408571 FUN loving male, 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, seeks mature female, 50-65 for meals out and daytime relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408185

NOW AND CHAT TO LOCAL SEND: CHAT26 TO : 80098 JIMMY 53 good looking, fit, genuine, honest, very loving and looking for the same in a woman. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 tall, dark hair, seeks female, 30- Box No: 397157

GENEROUS male, 6ft, GSOH, likes 9906 500 3724 Box No: 409273 music, DIY, seeks attractive lady to spoil Thin easygoing honest male, discreet, and pamper. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box Tel No: 409019 mile and pamper. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box Tel No: 409019 mile and pamper. Tel No: 409019 m

Follow us on bwitter @.

COLIN 5ft 8ins, dark hair, brown eyes likes pubs, walks, DVDs, holidays, seeks

No: 406463

63YR old gent, N/S, easy going, likes DIY

ARE you a black princess? 48yr old sporty
SINGLE male, youthful, serene, seeks white male, 5ft 11ins, likes holidacis
similar down to earth non materialistic cinema, meals out, would like to take you
female to become everlasting soul mates.
ref No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407711
CHRIS divorced. 55 exertic.

CHRIS divorced, 55, smoker, seeks HONEST 6ft, athletic male, 50, caring, temale, 30-45 for lasting relationship. Tel South Step 18, 197, walks, seeks enale, 40-55, slim for relationship and genuine, likes keep 18, 197, walks, seeks emale, 40-55, slim for relationship and genuine, pretty female, 24-42 for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 390023

GEOFF 60's, tall, seeking nice lady for fun, firedship, relationship, maybe more. Tel SHY 60'yr old male, seeks genuine female No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 406077

SHY 60yr old male, seeks genuine female No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 406077 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 Fox 3724 Box No: 407847 PAUL 46, brown/blond hair, 6ft, slim single dad, genuine, down to earth, fur

500 3724 Box No: 407847 agree in Set No. 30784 Box No: 407847 single dad, genuine, down to earth, fun 2VR old slim, dark haired, adventurous, cycling and sphotography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 406007 maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Bo

JEFF 60's, 6ft 2ins, fit, seeking lady, mid 50-60's for genuine relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 404837

ROMANCE wanted in Nuneaton. 5ft IAN 5ft 10ins, 55, caring, honest, looking 10ins, medium huild male 41 seeking a for sincere female with good personality.

pleasant lifestyle, seeks slim, attractive N/S lady, 48-60 for LTR and romance. Te

MALE 46, enjoys romantic walks, meals

JOHN 70's, likes music, nights out, seeks lemale, 50'. Ofor close, adult fun. Tel No: 397189

JOHN 70's, likes music, nights out, seeks lemale of similar age. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 397189

Men seeking men

80 for friend, companion or long-term relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407819

MALE 34, attractive, 5ft 10ins, blue eve

BI male, divorced, own business, generous, fit, 50, seeks male, any nationality, 18-45 for good times. Tel No: nationality, 18-45 for good times. T 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409009



THE biggest UK on-line database of 17 million UK REAL users with real E-Mail contact waiting to meet you.. http://dating.shropshirestar.com TEXT IN NOW AND CHAT TO LOCAL 68YR old lady, likes gardening, meals out, LYN slim size 10, 5ft 9ins, attractive with PEOPLE. SEND: CHAT26 TO: 8098 days out, tooking for sincere gent to share GSOH, OHAC, employed, WLTM genuine discrete relationship with male 48-52 for looking for male for LTR. Tel No: 9906 500 3724 Box No: 9006 5

CHRIS blue eyed blonde single female, lots of interests, loves travel, beach, nights BLONDE blue eyed 72yr old widow

YOUR local dating

us vour dating success story and be entered into our prize draw to

CURVY Irish female 35yrs looking for fun,

SLIM active lady, 60's, N/S, seeks honest, kind gent, 57-62 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407693

ANNABELLA board attractive

BOX No: 407021 €

SUSIE, seeks fifty shades of grey with guy any age but must be discreet, call and I will sincere to love and get close to, why not explain why. Tel: No. 0905 002 1953 Box yie me a call? Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407021 €

young looking, sincere male for hopeful Itr. Tell No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407943 §

BUBBLY 60 plus lady, slim, fair hair, comfy in jeans and leather jacket, seeks similar male for friendship etc. Tell No: 0906 500

FEMALE many interests, seeks male, 40 No: 407003 No: 408537

No: 408537

No: 40859

looking for nice caring male up to 65yrs who also has lots of love to give for hopeful relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 406715 ANITA petite 33yr old tanned, toned sexy size 10 female with very high drive and lots of energy looking for similar man for adult no stings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 406835 🖔

CARING female, likes Indian rock music, concerts, cinema, seeks North Staffs male, 40-55 for friendship/relationship. Tel

GOOD looking professional female, 51

SUE 40's female who enjoys evenings in/out looking for someone to have some

BLACK female, 45, seeking older gent, 60

Tell No: 1996 500 3724 Box No: 408505 | 3724 Box No: 408505 | 3724 Box No: 408505 | 3724 Box No: 364651 | 3724

exchange for great companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407501

SENSUAL cuddly 32yr old professional folioling for similar minded discreet male up looks mid 20's (its true) WLTM to 40yrs for 1-2-1 fun. Tel No: 0906 500 adventurous male 18 – 65, Im open to most ages/things, happy to try most things. most ages/things, happy to try most things. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 355761 ₿ BLONDE attractive educated lady 50, young minded, seeks professional tall male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 391818

TALL curvy female, 36dd, loves music, looking for fun and romance with dark TINA fun loving single mum who enjoys 3724 Box No. 391818 male. Give me a call. Tel No: 0906 500 most things in life, seeking happy guy with CSOH for meals in, dates out, possible romance and adult companionshin Tel just what she wente To any of the second of the se

loving, seeking male who likes walks, steek love 150 to 200 to 20

MANDY 36, size 10 but busty, looking for discreet relationship with open-minded BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: man. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 360317 CLAUDIA 37yr old attractive single mum GAIL 52, blonde hair, 5ft 2ins, likes nights

390991 B Men seeking women

per minute plus network ex-tras. Texts cost £1.50 per mes-sage sent.

MARIA petite curvy brunette, into keep fit, waria petite curvy brunette, into keep it, running, beauty, looking for nice genuine tall N/S guy with no ties for fun adult companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 405099 ₿ TEXT IN NOW AND CHAT TO LOCAL (T&C'S BELOW)

> GARY 40 tall dark hair JOHN 59, 5ft 8ins, OHAC, GSOH, seeks Box No: 409207

WOMAN 55yrs old, N/S, size 14, likes animals, nature, reading, TV, quiet life, seeks man 45-55, N/S for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box and pamper. Iet No: u990 30 3724 Sux uninhibited, seeks similar non conforms weragely attractive, NIS female up to 65. BROADMINDED 67yr old male, fit, active, SOH, caring, loving, seeks NIS female, 375065 open minded, 62-69 for genuine LTR. GENT 48, youthful outlook, likes ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: unityside, keep fit, karaoke, seeks soul mate for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724

nice lady for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 406677 SINGLE gent 71 young at heart, fit and active, OHAC, seeks similar aged lady for companionship, shared interests and possible ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box

MALE 58, good looking, placid, seeks honest, loyal, caring female with view to becoming soul mates. Tel No: 0906 500 406605

CHRIS divorced, 55, smoker, seeks HONEST 6ft, athletic male, 50, caring, female, 30-45 for lasting relationship. Tel genuine, likes keep fit, DIY, walks, seeks No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407715 female, 40-55, slim for relationship and

3724 Box No: 408989
FUN loving male, 47, lots to give, looking or genuine lady for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409159
ACTIVE 30yr old slim, dark haired male, enthusiastic, likes keep fit, photography, oseks female, 19-32. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 330009

TALL intelligent, professional fit guy, 50s, athletic, seeks good natured intelligent.

more, likes music, the outdoors and eating out. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 404055

GAY guy 58, Shropshire, seeks male 30



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Textiles recycling aids fire

NEWS

MID and West Wales Fire & Rescue Service has been recognised as the best in Wales for textile recycling by The Fire Fighters Charity.

In the charity's recent report, covering the period April to September 2013, the service has managed to raise just short of £6,000 in donations.

tions.

This is in addition to the £10,000 raised in the first year, and part of the £140,000 raised by the service for the Fire Fighters Charity in the past year.

Charity in the past year.

Craig Thomas, group
manager, said: "The service
has provided a significant
number of stations across
the service area with clothing banks. However, there
are plans to increase this
number over the coming
months so we can hope to
build on this amount and
provide further vital funds
for the charity.

"I would also like to
extend the offer to place further clothing banks in our
communities so would ask
you to call 0370 6060693 you
have a suitable location."

Deputy Chief Fire Officer

tion."

Deputy Chief Fire Officer
Paul Bates, the regional coordinator for the charity in
Wales, added: "I would like
to thank the communities of
Mid and West Wales whose
donations to you many chardonations to our many charitable events have provided us with the ability to raise such a great amount."

Poppy Appeal bosses' joy at record-breaking effort

Roy Fry, Poppy Appeal co-ordinator, said the town's collection has already topped last year's record of £24,000 and said he was left "speechless" by the support.

koy Fry, Poppy Appeal co-ordinator, said the town's collection has already topped last year's record of £24,000 and said he was left "speechless" by the support. He said he wanted to thank townspeople for their donations and said he could not believe how well the appeal has gone so far. He added: "I just wanted to let everybody know that we have now passed the £24,000 mark in funds raised, which was our town record set last year. It means we have broken by Andrew Morris

by Andrew Morris

who has volunteered, collected, bought a

who has volunteered, collected, bought a poppy, made a donation or helped out in any way. It has left myself and the rest of the team absolutely speechless.

"When we found out we had passed the record amount and could still see a few thousand more come in yet it left us feeling emits amortical." quite emotional.

quite emotional.

"Something we have noticed in the town this year is that so many children and young people are so proud to go and get a poppy and wear it. It seems that the cause is one held in high regard by people in the town and it has filtered through the generations. "We want to say thank you so much to everyone in Oswestry and will look forward to revealing the final amount in a month's time."

time."

The Poppy Appeal has enjoyed support across Shropshire. Special shirts worn by Shrewsbury Town players also raised funds for the Royal British Legion when they were up for auction.

Meanwhile, for the first time this year, Sainsbury's in Oswestry offered a poppy recycling service to customers.

The supermarket had a box for people to dran their used nomines off so they can be

The supermarket had a box for people to drop their used poppies off so they can be sold again next year. Bosses said that if five million poppies are returned to Sainsbury's stores nationwide, it could save The Royal British Legion up to £100,000.

Carol concert for youngsters



Pupils from The Meadows Primary School, based in Oswestry, during the rehearsal. Picture: Ian Sheppard.

HUNDREDS of children entertained a

HUNDREDS of children entertained a church packed with parents and teachers by singing Christmas carols.

The Marches School in Oswestry invited primary school children from the town and surrounding villages to join their carol concert at St Oswald's Church last week.

The service, led by Rev Simon Thorburn, gave friends and families the opportunity to enjoy performances from the school choir, staff choir, school band, Marches drama students and primary school choirs.

dents and primary school choirs.

More than 150 students from the
Marches School and Whittington, The

Meadows and Our Lady and St Oswald' primary schools took part.

primary schools took part.

Harriet Craddock, music teacher at The
Marches, said: "It was great to see so many
performers enjoy the evening. Our thanks
go to everyone involved and to family and
friends who are always so supportive.

"This has been a very busy few weeks for
the Marches School performing arts department having also taken part in the

ment, having also taken part in the Oswestry Christmas lights switch-on and supported the school's annual presentation evening, delivering performances through out the evening."

Restaurant wins top hygiene score

A STUDENT-run restau-rant which opened just weeks ago has been given the highest possible rating for food hygiene.

Scholars Restaurant, at the Oswestry campus of Walford and North Shrop-shire College, is the train-ing ground for hospitality and catering students.

Following a visit from food hygiene inspectors from Shropshire Council on December 4, the restaurant was given a rating of 5 – the best available.

Lecturer Dan Tompson

said: "This achievement belongs to the whole team, the students especially."

The restaurant was recently opened by Marcus Bean.

Brownies thanked for greyhound aid

GREYHOUND Rescue Shropshire & Borders has thanked Oswestry Brown-ies for its donation of

The group raised the money through holding various events and decided to give it to the dog rescue charity.

Lesley Spencer, from Greyhound Rescue Shropshire & Borders, said: "We want to give a big thank you to the Brownies.

"From everyone at

"From everyone at GRSB and all the hounds waiting for homes that this will benefit, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy new

MAKE EEEEEs

Young hockey

players enjoy

contest day

Pupils from Trefonen, Morda, Woodside,

Bryn Offa, Meadows, Cockshutt, St Martins School and Oswestry School played in the competition, held on the astro-turf pitches at Marches School last week.

at Marches School last week.
The festival involved pupils from Years 3 to 6 and was designed to develop young people's hockey skills.
A team of 18 Marches students were recruited as hockey leaders for the day and provided sessions for the pupils including leading their warm up, skill development and small sided games.
Bryn Offa will now represent Shropshire in the School Games next year.

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FEATURES & NEWS

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Spanish

TRAVEL and tourism stu-dents had the chance to test their language and hospital-ity skills when they hosted a visitor from Spain.

The students at the Oswestry campus of Walford and North Shropshire Col-lege were visited by Arkeitz lege were visited by Arkeitz Terciabo, who is in the UK for a three-month work placement with a local join-ery company as part of a for-eign exchange programme.

Last week he visited the college and talked with the students about his experi-ences of life and education in Spain.

"This information and the basic language they have learnt, will prove very useful when the students come to plan their study visit to Majorca in May 2014," said travel and tourism lecturer Tracey Brown.

Students are now looking forward to their next visit to Chester where they will see a production of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, as part of their entertainment

They also have a visit to the Christmas market in Chester coming up, where they will be able to look at some differences between European cultures in line with their European desti-

Tourism students' Dr Ruth thrives on role at the heart of patient care

from the day-to-day patient care in a hospital.

But for Dr Ruth Longfellow, consultant anaesthetist at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital, it was the chance to work with patients to give them the best care possible that helped

her decide on a career path after graduating from university.

After qualifying from the University of Edinburgh Medical School, Dr Longfellow worked in Accident & Emergency and general medicine.

She said: "I was thinking about a career in A&E. Whenever there were very ill or badly

worked in Accident & Emergency and general She said: "I was thinking about a career in injured patients the anaesthetist would always come down and turn the stressful situations into much calmer situations and I wanted to learn the skill that they had in managing and stabilising patients. "It's being able to provide a really good level of care. An anaesthetist can make a difference to a patient's experience of an operation with regards to their anaesthetic, whether they want to stay awake and have a local or regional block or having general anaesthetic, and making sure they're comfortable when they wake up.

"I'm particularly interested in day surgery because the patients come in and have their operations and can go home the same day because they're pain-free, so that represents a really good standard of care."

Dr Longfellow said that contrary to the perception of the anaesthetist sitting in the background and only having input during operations, her work takes her to all parts of the hospital.

"It's a very hands-on specialty. You do a lot of procedures and it's quite a female-friendly specialty," she said.

"Anaesthetists run intensive treatment units and look after patients in theatre and post operatively, and they work in maternity wards. They're actually the largest number of consultants in any one hospital."

Following her training in anaesthetics, Dr Longfellow spent three years in Nottingham before moving to her current home in West

NOMEN OF SUBSTANCE with Pam

Kingsley



Felton, and joined the staff

reiton, and joined the starr at the orthopaedic hospital in August 2011.

"I wanted to work in a hospital with a small team of anaesthetists which has a good reputation locally and nationally," she said. "The bonus of a home in the lovely Shropshire countryside clinched if for me."

The 38-year-old was drawn into studying

The 38-year-old was drawn into studying medicine after receiving advice from a scientist while on work experience at school. "At school I wanted to be a research scientist. I wanted to be a geneticist," she said. "I did a lot of work experience before I applied to university and did some with scientifist. They all said if you want to do scientists. They all said if you want to do scientific research, become a doctor first. I really appreciate the advice I was given. The orthopædic hospital is very well set up for doing research so there's excellent support." Outside her work, she and her husband, Johnny, a former Captain in the Royal Engi

Johnny, a former Captain in the Royal Engi neers bomb disposal unit, have two children aged five and seven. She enjoys taking part in triathlons, hill walking and gardening.



Ruth Longfellow, consultant anaesthetist at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

Teenager hopes to become

A 14-YEAR-old schoolboy is hoping to be elected to the Youth Parliament for Shrop-

shire.

Josh Page is the only young person from Oswestry standing for election this year and is the first representative in five years to put themselves forward from The Marches School.

Members of the Youth

Members of the Youth Parliament are elected annually all around the UK.

annually all around the UK.
Once elected, MYPs meet
MPs and local councillors,
organise events, run campaigns, make speeches, hold
debates and ensure that the
views of young people are
listened to by decision makars.

ers.

The most important aspect of any MYP's job is to make sure they represent the views of the young people in their constituency.

Josh is currently vice chairman of the Oswestry Youth Council, a dedicated volunteer at The Centre and a Health Champion, acting as a representative for health matters in Oswestry.

He said "I really want to

He said: "I really want to help to get young people's opinions across and take their views to the next level.

"If I get elected, I will have the opportunity to visit parliament and voice the opinions of young people not only from The Marches and Oswestry, but from the whole of Shropshire."









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NHS staff

are urged

to enter

awards

NHS Wales staff in Powys who are delivering excellent patient care are being urged to showcase their work by entering the NHS Wales Awards 2014.

e of 'farmer's boy' to M

by Toby Neal

HE was an outsider and his "farmer's boy" credentials were called into question.

So how was it that John Biffen was selected to become Oswestry's Conservative candidate for a 1961 by-election?

The poll had been prompted by the departure of MP David Ormsby-Gore to

the post of ambassador to Washington.
The story is told in Biffen's autobiography, which has been published six years

rapny, which has been published six years after his death.

Work on it had started after he was diagnosed with complete renal failure in the autumn of 2000. He began dialysis in the new year and as he lay recovering his wife, Sarah, encouraged him to talk about his Somerset childhood while she took notes on her laptop.

Reminisced

"For many months he reminisced and I typed and printed. As he got stronger he became enthralled and eventually took over the project, expanding it to cover his whole life," she says in the preface to the book, which is called "Semi-Detached," a reference to Bernard Ingham's famous description of Mr Bif-fen when he fell foul of Margaret

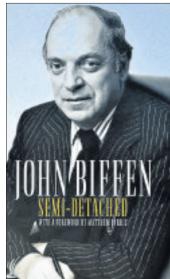
ten when he fell foul of Margaret Thatcher.

Mr Biffen had already stood unsuccessfully for the Tories in a no-hope constituency in Coventry, learning a lot along the way, when the Oswestry opportunity came up, and says he was sur-prised and astonished to get an invitation

prised and astonished to get an invitation to meet the Oswestry constituency selection committee in June 1961.

He met the constituency executive committee in an upstairs room in the Victoria Hotel, Whitchurch, and soon afterwards received a polite letter of rejection.

But a few days later he had a phone call to say the chosen candidate had withdrawn and he was back in the running. The final selection committee was at the Corbet Arms in Market Dravton, and Corbet Arms in Market Drayton, and



John Biffen's book cover.

there were four candidates – constituency chairman Major Mowat, from Ellesmere, "a kindly traditional squire"; Colonel Grubb, who came from near Whitchurch and was with the Country Landowners' Association; Major Jummy Friend, from Market Drayton area ("decidely right wing, he was rumoured to be sympathetic to the League of Empire Loyalists"); and himself. "Although I was pitted against three local candidates, the constituency was by no means at one.

no means at one



John Biffen was up against strong local contenders.

"Later I was to discover that Oswestry regarded Market Drayton as outer Siberia and that there was no bond between Ellesmere and Whitchurch." Mr Biffen pipped Major Jummy Friend by two votes in a selection which caused a mild ripple in the political

world.
"My main weakness in the eyes of the selection committee was the doubt as to whether I really came from the country-

side and had rural instincts. . .
"The ecstasy of triumph was quickly

ong local contenders. New kid on the replaced by apprehension. My description as a farmer's son was challenged.\(^1\)
There was a final hurdle, a constituency meeting to confirm the selection but which, in reality, was a chance for second thoughts.
"My father played a magnificent role. Heavily built with a strong Somerset accent, he looked and sounded the part. His hallmark was a broad-brimmed felt hat sporting a pheasant's feather. . My 'confirmation' was carried with a score of dissentients.

Conservatives hold in second place

dairy trades and standing his round at "The Smithfield view was that 'the governor's a better bet than the lad'. Thereafter I kept my father far away in

on showase them work of year, the awards 2014. Now in its seventh year, the awards are open to teams and organisations that have come up with new ways of working that have raised health care standards. This year, staff who have taken part in the national initiative Improving Quality Together (IQT), will also be encouraged to enter. IQT aims to equip NHS Wales staff with new skills that will help improve standards. Welsh Health and Social Services Minister Mark Drakeford said: "It is vitally important that we recognise the contribution made by NHS staff in Wales which makes such a huge difference in improving the lives of patients." The NHS Wales Awards 2014 are a chance for us to celebrate all that is good about the NHS."

More than 170 projects were entered into the 2013 Awards and it is hoped that the 2014 Awards will attract even more submissions. Entry forms are available at www.nhswalesawards. org.uk and the deadline for entries is January 24, 2014. Finalists will be revealed in March and the winners will announced at a ceremony in Cardiff in July 2014. announced at a ceremony in Cardiff in July 2014.

Oswestry, Liberals

THE Conservation remined the thousany division with a mo-duced sequently of 3.782, with the Liberain busing Labour for second pine.

Brank of the type obserion, assumented at 11.30 a.m. or

Thursday was: W. J. Biffre (Cone.) 55428; J. R. Buchenne G.B. J. 8,647; A. B. Weiden (Lub.) 8,519; J. Daytes (Particible

repressing genre I wroten Dillions and

New kid on the block - how his victory was reported. "Next morning my father went round the Oswestry fat stock market displaying his omniscience on the pig, sheep and

> Somerset as a strategic reserve. Semi-Detached by John Biffen is published by Biteback Publishing. It is

hardback and costs £30.

the Golden Tankard.

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Tel: 01691 655123

GIG GUIDE

Band helps to end year on a high note



BACK BY popular demand, The Gregory S. Davies Band will be aiming to end the year on a high note, as they make their triumphant return to The Willow Gallery this Friday.

Fronted by Shropshire-based singer songwriter Gregory Davies, the band has its own unique sound encompass-

has its own unique sound encompassing a variety of genres such as gypsy jazz, blues and boogie woogie.

They also inject their songs with a healthy dose of Americana, making for music that you can't help but tap your foot to.

Apart from lead man and singersongwriter Davies, the band also includes Sam Dougherty on drums, John Griffiths on bass, Dan Roberts on guitar, and Melissa Timmis on violin.

In's been a big year for the band as they started the year with the release of their single Rat-Trap, which was featured on BBC Radio Shropshire as its Song of the Month for March.

They then went on turn the heads of music fans with the release their first album titled 'Santiago LP'.

The album is currently available as a digital download for £3 or as a CD with accompanying sleeve artwork and ease for £5, and is available from the band's website.



The Gregory S. Davies Band is back by popular demand.

The show also marks the end of The Willow Gallery's season of live music which has brought whole host of great

live bands to Oswestry.

If there's one show you need to see If there's one show you need to see before Christmas, this is it, so make sure you head along. The gig starts at 7pm with tickets costing £7. Tickets can be pre-purchased and ordered from The Willow Gallery or by calling (01691) 657575.

Amazing

Also on this Friday, talented trio Not Also on this Friday, talented trio Not Completely Blonde will be performing at The Lowfield Inn, Marton. Made up of three friends Aliana, Beth and Fiona, the trio first performed together for a school concert and from there have gone on to wow local audiences with their amazing vocals.

Is back by popular demand.

You can expect plenty of classic covers by the likes of The Beatles as well as plenty of modern hits and original songs. The free gig starts at 8pm.

There will be a benefit gig for Old Oswestry Hillfort at the Hermon Chapel on Saturday. The gig will be headlined by DIY post punk band Mwstard with support from local band Shifty Chicken Shed.

Hailing from West Wales, Mwstard is made up of three friends who met in rural Carmarthenshire and decided to form a band. The gig starts at 8pm with entry costing \$4.

There's a big night of entertainment at the Royal Oak in Welshpool on Friday when Dai Robs and Steve Edwards share the stage and there will be a festive special on offer for Oak Live regulars on Christmas Eve with regular performers on stage. performers on stage.

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01691 668094

Retired headteacher is new leader of arts group

Course has a silver lining



Angela Georgiou will be running a silversmith course at Walford & North Shropshire College.

A SILVERSMITH, who has recently opened her first art shop and studio, is offering local people the opportunity to learn this fascinating craft for themselves.

Angela Georgiou will be running a silversmith course at Walford & East Walford & Wa

last 10 years running her own busicreating bespoke handmade lery, from her home in ness, creating bespone in jewellery, from her home in Ellesmere before branching out into

She started teaching for Walford and North Shropshire College (WNSC) in September this year and

For more information about courses at WNSC, visit www.wnsc. ac.uk or call (01691) 688000. Or call Angela on 07794178084, via ecall Angela on 07/1941/8084, via e-mail at kikijewellery@hotmail. co.uk Examples of her work may also be viewed on Facebook at https://m.facebook.com/kikijew ellery

new chairman of an Oswestry arts group is hoping to use his role to attract younger members to join the organisation during his term in office.

John Parkinson has been appointed the chairman of Oswestry and District Society

of Artists.

Mr Parkinson, a retired headteacher from Llanrhaeadr, took over the chairmanship at the society's annual meeting.

Thanks were recorded at the meeting to the previous chairman, Sue Humphries, who remains on the committee.

Carol James, spokeswoman for the group, said: 'John was head at Llangedwyn Church in Wales Primary School and since he retired has concentrated on developing his

artistic talents.

"He has his own studio and framing business at Llangedwyn Mill and teaches the Bob Ross style of painting with great suc-

Bob Ross style of painting with great success.

"Several challenges face the society in the near future, John believes.

"Coming up is the first ever show at the professional Willow Gallery in Oswestry over the Christmas and New Year period.

"This will be an exciting showcase for local artists to exhibit their talent and sell paintings over the festive period.

"John is also hoping to encourage younger artists to join the society which can offer the chance to learn and work together."

Work put on show

A-LEVEL art students from Llanfyllin High School have hosted a successful mid-term exhibition.

The students set up their exhibition at The Workhouse Gallery, Llanfyllin, last Fri-day.

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Seasons greetings to all of our customers



Best in class is the promise but only time will reveal all



WHEN a manufacturer boldly says its new car will be the best in class vou know it means business - and that's just the claim from Peugeot about the new 308.

The 308 arrives in January and will be the first model in the company's history to retain the name of its predecessor, despite being a

completely new car from the ground up.
And any Peugeot driver will be delighted to learn that at last the pedals have been centred. So no longer are you sat with your feet to the right. Apparently all that was needed was a redesigned air-conditioning system – why has

it taken so long?
Engineers started with a blank sheet of paper and produced a 308 which is 140kg lighter than the old model and that means bet ter performance and efficiency all round. Such was the attention to detail that laser welding techniques were adopted to minimise weight

While the 308 is attractive enough it won't see people braking their necks for a glance as it passes by, but it's hard not to be really taken by the cabin, which gets a futuristic approach.

There's an attractive small steering wheel that you look over, insted of through, to see the clocks, which took me back to my youth when installing a small wheel was a fashion icon amongst Mini owners.



The new 308 is lighter that the old model with better performance



On the road the car has good handling and is a comfortable ride



There's an attractive looking small wheel

Star place goes to the centrally mounted touch-screen which is standard on all but the entry-level trim, and features large easy-to-hit icons. It's a great piece of kit and the kids will

The downside is unless you are at home with this type of technology there's a lot to understand and take in. Every action, including the heating and air con system, has to come via the touch screen and you may find yourself spending a little too much time with your eyes off the road ahead. Top of the range models benefit from my favourite accessory, a heads-up image in front of the driver which not only tells you what speed you are travelling at but also gives sat-nav instructions.

On the road there's not a lot wrong, with good handling and a comfortable ride, even when pushed to the limit.

I was able to test the range and found the 114bhp 1.6 diesel manual with stop-start to be the pick of the range with good gear flexibility and a much quieter ride than the petrol options. Though it's worth remembering it was a top of the range Feeline e-HDi version.

With a top speed of 118mph, 0-62mph in 10.2seconds and and amazing 76.3mpg the model does live up to Peugeot's claim to be up there with the best in class. What's really impressive though is that CO2 emission levels are at only 100k/gm.

You may find it worthwhile hanging on a

while if thinking about a purchase because there's another diesel model on the way which will set a new segment record with only 82a/km

The boot can accommodate 470 litres of luggage and yet there's still ample leg and headroom for rear seat passengers thanks to Peugeot engineers making use of every available inch at the front which means the front seat pair sit slightly further forward than in the previous model.

Time will tell whether this newcomer lives up to Peugeot boasts as best in class but it will be a real competitor and the younger drive will be attracted to the stylish i-cockpit dashboard

Bumper to bumper

Car: Peugeot 308 Model: Feline e-HDi 115 Price: £21.745

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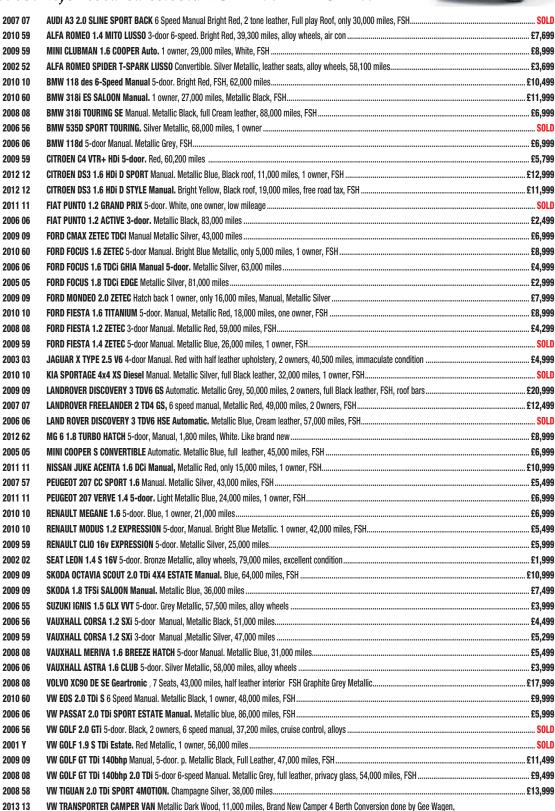
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PLACINGS English Clubs Championships

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Olivia Owen-Sinclair Olivia just

too sharp

YEAR 13 Moreton Hall stu-

YEAR 13 Moreton Hall stu-dent Olivia Owen-Sinclair has won the Shropshire Closed Fencing Competition, in foil, at Belvidere School. The win was especially hard fought as there were no age groups, meaning Olivia fenced both seniors and jun-iors to win her title of county champion champion.

PLACINGS

Greenhous Shrewsbury Sunday League PREMIER DIVISION

Instones United 5	5	0	0	26	15
Wem Sunday 7	3	1	3	-2	10
Compasses 7	3	0	4	-10	9
Reman Afc 6	2	2	2	4	8
Meole Brace 7	2	2	3	-12	8
Coton Rovers 9	2	2	5	-17	8
Anchor Inn 8	2	1	5	-6	7
Cruckton Rovers 9	1	3	5	-3	6
DIVISI	ON 1	1			
P	w	D	L	GD	Pts
S.A.H.A 7	7	0	0	20	21
Loppington8	5	1	2	10	16
Norbury11	4	2	5	-3	14
Old Post Office 8	4	1	3	6	13
The Gates 8	3	2	3	-4	11
Three Fishes 8	2	2	4	-10	8
Charles Darwin 8	2	1	5	-4	7
Masonic Arms 7	2	1	4	-4	7
Peacock Corinthns., 9	1	4	4	-11	7
DIVISI					
P	w	D	L	GD	Pts
Rock Rovers Youth 8	7	0	1	16	21
Coracle AFC 6	5	ō	i	13	15
Condover Foxes 7	5	0	2	10	15
Rock Rovers9	5	0	4	4	15
Belvidere 9	3	2	4	-4	11
Telegraph9	3	2	4	-10	11
Minsterley 8	2	2	4	-4	8
Kinnerley 7	2	1	4	-8	7
Crown Coleham 6	1	i	4	-5	4
Brockton Rovers 7	1	0	6	-12	3
DIVISI			0	-12	3
P	W	, D	L	GD	Pts
Steam Wagon FC 9	8	0	1	43	24
Stretton Galaxy 9	7	1	i	20	22
Sundorne AFC10	7	ò	3	16	21
Boars Head 9	6	0	3	5	18
Unison9	4	1	4	-1	13
Saddlers9	3	2	4	-1	11
S.U.AFC 8	3	1	4	-14	10
Red Lion10	2	2	6	-24	8
Bull In The Barne 9	1	0	8	-19	3
Bricklaver Arms 8	0	1	7	-19	1
DIVISI			-	-25	
P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
Snailbeach 8	7	0	1	30	21
Hawkstone Arms10		3			
	6		1	22	21
Red Barne 7	5	2	0	28	17
SAHA Youth 8	5	2	1	8	17
Nags Head 9	5	2	2	6	17
Prince Of Wales 9	3	0	6	-1	9
Wheatsheath 8 S.U.AFC Reserves 10	2	2	4	-14	8
	2	2	6	-21	8
Santos	1	1	7	-33	4

moor/Abbey ... 8 0 0 8 -2 Wheatland Indoor

Wheatland Indoor
Cricket League
Division one: Condover 123-4 (J. Mansell
no. S. Dodds 18), Shelton 83-1 (M. Chamis 18 no, M. Dawes 28 no). Condover won by
uns. Alberbury 74 (J. Brooks 16, 1. Mills 2D. Bradburn 2-5), Shirlani 75-4 (L. Edwards
1. by J. Wickets, Willey 84 (M. Brown 35, A.
1. by 2 wickets, Willey 84 (M. Brown 35, A. y 2 wickets; Willey 84 (M. Brown 33, A. n. 2-15), Grasshoppers 87-1 (P. Elton 21, ath 26 no, Joe Yapp 15). Grasshoppers

i. Heath 26 no, Joe Yapp 15). Grasshoppes on by 5 wickets. Division two: Church Stretton 68-3 (T. Zump 15, M Morris 2-16), Case Glas 75-0 (N. Zump 15, M Morris 2-16), Case Glas 75-0 (N. Zump 15, M Grass 2-16), Case Glas won by 6 wickets; Beacon 116-10 (S. Thorriley 25 no, Y. Pugh 17 no, G. awrence 2-28). Cound 117-4 (J. Case 25, T. 2004 26, K. Hamer 26 no, A. Phillips 2-39). Caund won by 2 wickets, Bomere Health 114-0), Clorud 58 (M. Low 14, P. Bolland 2-15, J. Stevens 2-21). Bomere Health won by 56 runs. DiVISION 1

Grasshoppers		5	0	1	30			
Shifnal	6	4	0	2	24			
Alberbury		2	0	4	12			
Willey	6	1	0	5	6			
Shelton		0	0	6	0			
DIVISION 2								
	Р	w	T	L	Pts			
Cae Glas	6	5	0	1	30			
Cound		5	0	1	30			
Bomere Heath	6	4	0	2	24			
Grove	6	2	0	4	12			
Beacon	6	2	0	4	12			
Church Stretton	6	0	0	6	0			
The Roche North								

Shropshire Sunday Football Leaaue

P	W	D	L	GD	Pts		
Cross Foxes11	9	1	1	14	28		
Malpas 9		2	1	25	20		
Athletico Market10	4	3	3	8	15		
The Oak 8	4	2	2	8	14		
The Keys 7		1	4	-10	7		
Dudleston Heath 8	2	1	5	-12	7		
Lodge Inn10	2	1	7	-21	7		
Tavern FC 9	1	1	7	-12	4		

Joy of six as Guils extend unbeaten run

ON-SONG Guisheid stretched their unbeaten run to six games in the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance after being involved a goalless deadlock at wind-ravaged Rhy-

dymwyn.

The Guils made the trip in good heart with boss Matt Burton taking the manager of the month award for November and 17-goal striker Danny Barton making it a double for the club by netting the player of the month arcolade.

It has been a terrific response since the 3-1 loss to Llanrhaeadr back on October 22, with a draw followed by four straight victo-

But hopes of making it five wins in a row were dashed as the Guils drew a blank in

ing the encounter.

The conditions were going to be a big factor, with Rhydymwyn literally weathering the storm in the first half to go into the interval level pegging.

interval level pegging.
With the elements in their favour after
the break, the home side had the greater
amount of the game, but the Guils held firm
to return with a hard-earned point that
keeps them in fifth spot.

In another wind-affected clash, LLAN-In another wind-affected clash, LLAMS-RHAEADR are now one point adrift at the foot of the table after suffering a 2-0 home loss to improving Buckley Town who took the spoils with goals in each half from Nathan Martland on nine and 76 minutes. with a crucial and well deserved 2-1 home with against Flint Town United the previous week, the villagers were unable to maintain the momentum.

They struggled to hit the highs of the Flint game, with Buckley deserved winners after taking the few chances on offer in a solid display

Basement

The best opportunities for the hosts saw fullback Matthew Evans shoot wide while centre forward Mark Griffiths was also off target with a headed effort.

A headed goal from Neil Mitchell three minutes before half time was enough to

earn Caersws a rainswept 1-0 home win over Rhayader Town who remain just above the relegation zone.

It was honours even for basement rivals Penrhyncoth and Llanidloes Town who shared a 2-2 draw at Cae Baker.

All the goals came in the first half, with Penrhyn twice taking the lead courtesy of Aneurin Thomas (10) and Arron Lemon (16) only for the Daffs to make swift ripostes through Will Thomas (12) and ex-Welshpool striker Jamie Breese (25).

SATURDAY FIXTURES

SATURDAY FIXTURES
Huws Gray Cymru Alliance (2.30, unless stated);
Caernarfon Town v Penycae, Cefn Druids v Caersws, Conwy Borough v Penrhyncoch, Flint Town
United v Rhydymwyn, Llanidoes Town v Llandudno,
Llanrhaeadr v Rhayader Town (2).

COBRA Cup dream dashed so hopes turn to the Plate

RUGBY

by John **Bridgwater**



COBRA's prospects of progressing in the North Wales Cup were dashed after suffering their second group defeat when going down 12-5 at rainswept Dolgellau despite a gutsy performance.

Having lost at home to Dolgellau earlier in the competition, the Meifod men knew they had to win in the return to keep their hopes alive.

Reep their hopes alive.

But defeat means that their hosts now progress, leaving COBRA with the consolation of a place in the Plate competition although they still have to play Bala both home and away in their remaining group games.

The Llanfair Caereinion side have yet to win away from home this season, but could take heart from a spirited showing in a game dominated by the horrendous conditions of rain and gale force wind which made for a forward oriented affair.

Playing with the wind at their backs in the first half, COBRA conceded two tries, one converted, before going over for a touchdown themselves from winger Richard Jones to revive their fortunes.

Tight grip

But Dolgellau kept a tight grip with their strong forwards, dictating play and territory as they kicked to the corners, although they were unable to add to their lead with the wind in the second half after being frustrated by some stout defence while also spurning a number of penalties. COBRA, who were still without the likes of Aled Davies, Alwyn Williams and Wyn Williams, have now finished their action for this year, and return to duty at home to Bethesda on Saturday, January 4, as they look for a much needed win to ease their basement worries in the Swalec League division one (north),

sion one (north),
Makeshift WELSHPOOL crashed out of the Swalec Bowl
with a hefty 64-7 exit at impressive Shotton Steel in the

third round. The Maesydre men had

The Maesydre men had been struggling to raise a side with several players missing as originally it was a free weekend before the tie was rearranged.

And, forced to make nine changes from the side that defeated Rhos 22-19 the previous week in the Welsh League division three (north), it was tough going for the visitors who conceded at ry after just 24 secceded a try after just 24 sec-

onds.
Pool just about fielded 15 Pool just about fielded 15 players, with experienced campaigner Darren Williams making his first appearance for the team in four years while several young lads were also included young lads were also included. It looked bleak at half

It looked bleak at half time with Shotton – who play in a division above – surging into a 48-0 lead, but the visitors could take plenty of heart from their second half efforts.

second half efforts.

In fact, the home side did not add to their score until almost midway through the second half, while Pool had the last say with the final try hen prop Jamie "Cheggers" Evans crossed with Andrew Thomas supplying the conversion.

the conversion.

It's back to the league on Saturday with a trip to Llanidloes in division three (north) with several players back in the reckoning



Second-half rally not



Getting a lift at the line-out is Oswestry veteran Nick Larder in the game against Liverpool Collegiate

OSWESTRY suffered their OSWESTRY SUffered their first home loss of the season in rugby's South Lancs and Cheshire Two when suc-cumbing 24-12 to promotion chasing Liverpool Collegiate despite a stirring second half display.

display.

The Eagles looked up against it when they trailed 24-0 just after the interval, but rallied to give their second placed visitors a real run for their money.

The game got off to a terrible start for the home side when were caucht cold as

who were caught cold as Collegiate's fly-half darted over to score a converted try.

over to score a converted try.
Stung into action,
Oswestry then began to
string together some phases,
but fell further behind when
the visiting centre cut
through the home defence to
score, which was again converted.
The Eagles were still

The Eagles were still searching for the spark that searching for the spark that has been present in their play at home so far this season, but Collegiate were still looking dangerous and were only denied further touchdowns by terrific tackles from Nick Howland and Tyler Morris, the latter suffering a nasty gash on the nose for his efforts that forced him off, with Tom Keaveney replacing him.

The visitors continued to attack relentlessly and, from a line-out, another fine line by their centre saw him score again, with the conversion missed for a 19-0 interval lead.

A strong team talk by coach coach Gaz Barrett at half time saw the Eagles show real purpose after the

show real purpose after the break as they applied heavy pressure to the visitors. However, against the run of play, they extended their lead with a fourth try when their winger latched onto a kick ahead to touch down. Undaunted, the Eagles then rebuilt, and a good carry by Jamie Luckett saw him come within inches of the line, and the forwards gave quick ball to Nick Clay, giving him options. A superb dummy line by Mike Davies

took two defenders out of the game, and Gaz Hughes then burst through the gap to score under the posts, con-verted by Dan Williams.

Good carries by Keaveney and Olly Wilford continued to keep the visitors under preskeep the visitors under pressure, then the ball was spread wide and Jack Fox flew past his opposite man before being tackled around the neck by a defender, resulting in a yellow card. More cynical play by the visitors prevented the home side from getting quick ball, which hampered their attempts to attack. However, it happened once too many, and the ref-

However, it happened once too many, and the referee had no choice but to issue another yellow card to

the visitors, but it cost the the visitors, but it cost the Eagles an almost certain try. However, a good scrum from the penalty, then good car-ries by the forwards, gave Andy Smith a chance to score, and he charged through three defenders to through three defenders to score a well taken captain's try. This was sadly to be the last act of the game, but an incredibly promising second half gave birthday boy Bar-rett hope for the rest of the season.

rett nope for the rest of the season.

The Eagles now take a break from competitive fixtures until Saturday, January d, but a special game against a Nomads team consisting of players at university and for-mer players will take place on the December 28.



That's my ball - Oswestry's Tom Holloway securing the ball in the line-out

Rhyn hope to end year with timely win booster

WESTON Rhyn slipped to third from bottom in the Mercian Regional League premier division after crashing 5-1 at home to lowly Allscott.

Allscott.

Despite having already defeated their rivals twice this season, both encounters were closely contested and this time Allscott – with a strengthened side – gained revenge in a game blighted by strong wind and rain.

Matt Owen's side started well enough, and took the

Matt Owen's side started well enough, and took the lead when Guy Guilford fired over the keeper from the right edge of the box.

But Allscott rallied, and levelled from the penalty spot after keeper Paul Morris had fouled an oncoming forward. Two more goals followed before half-time and a

forward. Two more goals fol-lowed before half-time and a fourth soon after the break to put the visitors in charge. With the stormy condi-tions dictating the game, Richard Hardy had a chance to pull one back but put his effort wide after the ball had been squared to him. Allscott completed scoring with a fifth goal, but still remain second bottom, and six points below Weston

and six points below Weston Rhyn.

Rhyn.
Despite the defeat, Rhyn—
who are at home to Ketley
Town on Saturday in their
last action of the year – are
just a couple of wins away
from getting back into the
top half of the table.

PLACINGS

Mercian Regional Football League

Football League
Premier division: Katley 7 town 1, Wellington Amateurs Reserves 3: Madeley Sports 3, Fo Hodnet 6; Shirfial Util 0, Bridgonth Reserves 0: Weston Rhyn 1, Allscott 5.
Division one: Childs Ernall 1, Brown Clee
2: Dawley Town 6: Shawbury Util Reserves 2.
Devision Shawbury Util Reserves 2.
Division Shawbury Util Reserves 2.
Division Shawbury Util Reserves 2.
Shrewebury Util 3, Clee Hill 5; Wnockwardine Wood 2; Dense 0, Albrighton Juniors 6: Donnington Sports & Social 4 Olewestry Villa Reserves 3: Highley Miners Witters 1, Impact Util 3; Market Drayton Tigers 2, AFC Broseley 5; Spalling Branna 0, Ludovi Romo Colts 7.
PREMIER WINDOWS 19 A 10 Program 1 1 Program 1 Prog

Telford Juniors14	7	4	34	23	11	24	
Whitchurch Alp R 16	6	4	30	23	7	24	
Wellington Ams R15	6	5	26	29	-3	22	
Church Stretton15	6	6	27	25	2	21	
Madeley Sports 15	6	7	23	28	-5	20	
Ketley Town14	6	6	22	27	-5	20	
Prees14	6	7	24	27	-3	19	
Shifnal United 9714	5	5	23	19	4	19	
Weston Rhyn16	5	8	29	39	-10	18	
Allscott16	2	8	18	30	-12	12	
Bridgnorth T Res17	2	9	21	39	-18	12	
DIVIS	SIOI	N 1					
P	W	L	F	Α	GD	Pts	
Bishops Castle T16	13	3	64	13	51	39	
Oswestry Town15	11	- 1	56	12	44	36	
Childs Ercall14	11	3	72	11	61	33	
Dawley Town17	9	5	53	37	16	30	
Rock Rovers FC 13	9	2	59	25	34	29	

Oswestry Town15	11	- 1	56	12 44	36
Childs Ercall14	11	3	72	11 61	33
Dawley Town17	9	5	53	37 16	30
Rock Rovers FC 13	9	2	59	25 34	29
Wroxeter Rovers11	8	0	47	11 36	27
Hanwood Utd Res.15	8	5	47	20 27	26
Clee Hill14	7	2	39	23 16	26
Oswestry Villa16	6	8	38	36 2	20
Brown Clee15	6	8	39	36 3	19
Oakengates Rgrs 17	5	9	31	49 - 18	18
Wrock Wood Jnrs18	4	12	23	66-43	14
Meole Brace14	4	9	25	68-43	13
Shrewsbury Utd 18	3	14	29	106-77	10
Shawbury Utd R17	2	13	16	77 -61	8
Hopesgate United .14	0	12	19	67-48	2

DIVISION 2								
P	W	L	F	AGD	Pts			
AFC Broseley18	16	0	97	19 78	47			
Wrock Wood18	14	2	89	30 59	41			
Impact16	11	2	64	27 37	36			
AFC Wellington 16	11	4	91	34 57	34			
Donnington S & S.15	11	4	74	37 37	33			
Market D'ton Tgrs16	9	6	70	36 34	28			
Claverley15	9	6	63	26 37	27			
Ludlow T Colts17	6	9	66	43 23	20			
Albrighton Juniors.15	5	9	41	55-14	16			
Oswestry Villa R17	4	11	20	50-30	14			
Spalaig Britannia17	4	11	22	84-62	14			
Highley Miners W16	2	11	34	59-25	9			
Shrewsbury Utd R.15	2	13	20	94-74	6			
Denso17	0	16	151	72-157	- 1			

RESULTS

JT Hughes Montgomeryshire
Amateur Football League results
The Robins (Newtown The Robins)
League Gup. Bound I woo Charles
League Gup. Charles
League Gup. Quarter
League G



Oswestry players in the Christmas spirit late blow in

FC OSWESTRY Town's top of the table showdown at home to Bishop's Castle last Saturday was postponed due to a bereave-ment in the visitors' camp. Still three points adrift of leaders Castle in the Mercian

Regional League division one, Town face another big home clash against another of their chief rivals, Rock Rovers, at the

Clash against another of their chief rivals, Rock Rovers, at the Venue Park Hall (2pm). Oswestry Villa reserves, meanwhile, went down 4-3 at Don-nington Community to remain in the lower reaches of division

FC Oswestry - donning their Christmas jumpers - got in the festive spirit when the whole squad were invited for a tour and tasting session at kit sponsors Stonehouse Brewery. The squad are pictured with sponsor Stonehouse Brewery. The squad are pictured with sponsor Shane Parr (crouching, front right).

Record-breaking TNS look four-midable at Park Hall





THE New Saints are still looking strong at the top of the Welsh Premier after maintaining their winning ways at Park Hall with a comfortable 4-0 victory over Aberystwyth Town.

The defending champions have now won all eight league games at home this term to take a firm grip of the title race. and have remarkably yet to concede a goal on their own

Mike Wilde's 36th minute header was enough to separate the sides at the break before the Saints surged clear after the interval as Matty Williams and Alex Darlington netted two quickfire goals, and substitute Greg Draper nodded the fourth to seal the win.

"It was pleasing to see all four of our centre-forwards get on the scoresheet," said head coach Carl Darlington, "We knew it would be tough as Aber are pushing for a top six

place.
"They looked to make it difficult for us, but we did well. "They looked to make it difficult for us, but we did well. It was not a great performance, we could have gone up another gear, but we can still take a lot of satisfaction from the way we played, scoring four goals and keeping another clean sheet."

The Saints started well with a succession of corners, with Wilde being denied by a superb save from keeper Mike Lewis, but they took the lead when last season's top scorer Wilde coolly headed in nine minutes before the interval.

Dominating

With their hosts dominating possession, Aber rarely threatened, although Stuart Fraser found space in the box to curl one effort over, while at the other end Chris Jones hit a powerful shot into the side netting.

The Saints maintained the momentum after the break and, 10 minutes into the second half, Williams doubled the advantage when his deflected shot eluded Lewis and trickled into the net after Darlington's mazy run.

Two minutes later, that lead was extended when Darlington to the first to went in the later area the first to went in the later area the second when the later was the first to went in the later area the second when the later was the first to went in the later area the second when the later area.

ton was the first to react in the box to smash home a loose ball to effectively settle the issue

TNS continued to call the tune, with Chris Jones being thwarted by another terrific save from Lewis who palmed the ball away as it curled towards the top corner after Sam Finley had dribbled past several defenders.

Draper then added a fourth on 76 minutes when heading in a cross from fellow substitute Jamie Mullan to take his tally to nine goals for the season.

It could have been more with Darlington having his shot cleared off the line by defender Peter Hoy, but the Saints would have happy enough with their efforts as their continued their remarkable form on home surrounds.

The Saints are on a record breaking 16 match winning in at home on their artificial surface, which stretches back

Morris drives in as new Henlle seniors skipper



John Morris with members of the senior section as he prepares to drive in at Henlle Golf Club

AFTER the club held a nine hole Stableford competition, John Morris, senior captain for 2014, performed his drive in at Henlle Golf Club with a shot down the middle of the fairway.

The event was followed with a

Christmas lunch which was well

attended by the seniors section.

Winners of various competitions throughout the year were awarded with their shields and trophies.

& Peter Barker 40pts: 2 Peter Bagnall &

& Peter Barker 40pts; 2 Peter Bagriau Peter Hodkinson 22pts; 3 Barrie Evans & Alan James 21pts. 11 individuals scored 2s. Christmas Mixed Greensomes: 1 Janet Johnson & Ed Smith 40pts; 2 Beryl Aubrey & Pete Kanes 37pts; 3 Amanda Holroyd &

Foxes end year at top of the tree

CROSS FOXES go into the New Year eight points clear at the top of the Roche North Shropshire Sunday League – although they have played two games more than second placed Malpas.

In the only game last Sunday, Foxes were made to battle all the way before were induce to bathe an the way before securing a valuable 3-2 victory over a spirited Oak team.

Kyle Wilson gave fourth placed Oak a 15th minute lead with a low right

foot shot from a cross from Paul Kirkham, but the league leaders lev-elled five minutes before the break when Kyle Stephenson beat two defenders and then unleashed a low left foot shot into the left hand corner.

Stephenson struck again two min-utes later to put the Foxes 2-1 up with a clever lob after being put through by lock Hyrshes Jack Hughes.
Oak hit back to level on 59 minutes

continue despite a linesman's flag to score from the edge of the box.

Undaunted, Foxes produced the winner on 75 minutes with a brilliant 25-yard free kick from Ben Pierpoint which flew into the keeper's top left hand corner after Stephenson had been fouled.

been fouled.

The game between THE KEYS and
ATHLETICO MARKET was postponed due to the Market failing to field

St Martins caught by goal feast

ST MARTINS produced another improved display – but paid the price for slack defending after finishing 4-4

but paid the price for slack defending after finishing 4-4 at Trysull in the West Midlands League division one. The point keeps Ryan Butcher's side second from bottom, and facing a daunting task on Saturday when they head to unbeaten AFC Bridgnorth Town who were 8-1 winners when the sides met earlier in the season. The Saints started well last week in windy conditions, with Sam Thomas seeing a shot deflected ove, but they were ahead on 15 minutes when Shawn Melusi played in Jamie Williams who beat four defenders before coolly slotting in. Melusi, who had an excellent game, then found Karl Bailey who broke through but the forward was denied with just the keeper to beat. However, the second goal arrived on 35 minutes when a flowing move from defence ended with Bailey finishing. But Trysull hit back with two goals in a minute to level matters, Mike Freeman get-

two goals in a minute to level matters, Mike Freeman getting both, the second follow

ting both, the second follow-ing a defensive slip as he broke through to score. Thomas then restored the lead when heading in a cor-ner moments later, and the Saints could have been fur-

Saints could have been fur-ther ahead at the break only for Sam Nash to see his shot blocked on the line. The visitors, however, were caught cold straight after the interval as Dan Patrick levelled matters after another mix-up and, on 55 minutes, John Patrick put Trysull ahead with a fierce strike after keeper Paul Fos-strike after keeper Paul Fos-

Trysull ahead with a fierce strike after keeper Paul Foster was ruled to have handled outside the box.

The Saints showed plenty of resilience to bounce back again when Josh Sumner and Kieran Barry combined for Williams to make it 44 with his second of the game, and they could have snatched the points after pressing in the closing stages, with Meluis seeing a shot deflected on to the post.

PLACINGS

Welshpool Dominoes

Dool Don League DIVISION 1 P W 12 9 12 8 12 7 3 12 7

Social Club11	4	7	33	44						
Compasses12	4	8	33	51						
Celts11	3	8	31	46						
DIVISION 2										
P	W	L	F	Α						
Talbot12	10	2	59	25						
Bowling Club12	8	4	52	32						
Breidden12	8	4	51	33						
The Real Railway12	7	5	45	39						
Westwood Wand11	7	4	44	33						
Pinewood Dragons11	6	5	41	36						
Westwood12	5	7	40	44						
Kings Head12	5	7	37	47						
Angel12	5	7	36	48						
Muriels Bunch12	5	7	36	48						
RAF Boys12	4	8	36	48						

Stonehouse Brewery Oswestry & District Dominoes League

P	w	D	L	F	A	Pts
ack Lion B11	6	4	-1	40	26	16
ack Lion A11	7	0	4	42	24	14
oss Foxes11	5	4	2	39	27	14
as Yn Dinas11	6	2	3	37	29	14
nybont Inn11	5	3	3	36	30	13
ation11	4	4	3	36	30	12
adford Arms11	5			34	32	12
rseshoe11	5		5	34	32	11
p White Lion11	3	4	4	29	37	10
hite Lion11	- 1	7	3	31	35	9
rley Mow11	3	1	7	23	43	7
ilway Tavern11	2	2	7	26	40	6
ack Horse12	2	2	8	26	46	6

2; Top White Lion 4, Railway 2; Cross Foxes 2 Black Lion A 4; Plas Yn Dinas 4, Black Horse 2

GOLF RETURNS

WELSHPOOL
Turkey Trail (8th Dec): J Pierce +2;
+1. (7th Dec): G Courtney 26pts; D A
26pts; S Griffiths 26pts; P Constable
(1st Dec): N Jones 44.5; L Mason
Williams 45. (30th Nov): J Williams/I Williams 45. (30th Nov): J Williams II Davies 41; K Stephens B Aidrighe 42. (24th Nov): J Waldra Schts. J Waldron Eights, K Evans Zipts. (22nd Nov): S Tow 44.5; P Cornstable 45; M Georgia Cornstable 45; M Wallader +4; A Watkins +3; D Ellis +1, (16th Nov): G Hughes IR Evans 42; R Templeton A Evans 43. (10th Nov): D Bowen 25ts; D Pretty 26tps; G Jones 25tps; J Novel 26; (9th Nov): D Rowlands 44.5; S (9th Nov): D Rowlands 44.5; J Wood 44.5; S Griffiths 45; D Evans 45.5.

Youth team maintain title charge

A STIRRING comeback by Ellesmere Rangers Youth team saw them register a vital 2-1 win at AFC Wulfrunians in The Midland Floodlit Youth League Premier North division to keep up the heat on leaders Hinckley United.

After missing the opportunity to build on the comfortable Staffordshire FA Midweek Floodlit Youth Cup win at Pelsall Villa the previous week week owing to a weather cancellation, Rangers trailed to a well worked goal by Wulfrunians in the 19th minute.

In a very tight affair, Ellesmere's youngsters showed excellent resolve and, after Mike O'Reilly's drive was brilliantly saved

by the goalkeeper, skipper Jay Stoker slot-

by the goalkeeper, skipper Jay Stoker slotted home a 33rd minute penalty after Will Twyford was upended.
Crucially, the visitors got their noses in front just prior to the interval when O'Reilly's free kick was whipped in from deep to find in-form Josh Parker who coolly volleyed the ball home to send the Swans into the interval in the lead.
The second half was strongly contested by both teams with very few chances created at either end, with substitute Jack Gaddes coming the closest to scoring when

Gaddes coming the closest to scoring when his header struck the bar late on. "AFC Wulfrunians are the best team we have played in the league so far," said

Ellesmere manager Dan Stevens.
"Tactically we had to be disciplined as they had some strong threats and I was delighted with how the lads took on board what I wanted them to implement.
"The game had few chances and it was pleasing that we managed to take those that came our way and then put in an excelent shift to stay solid and see the game out. It's a vital three points and keeps us in the hunt."

Ellesmere, who have now completed the double over AFC Wulfrunians, play their last league game on Thursday at home to Romulus (7.45pm ko) before the Christmas

hit the road

Elisemere to

IT'S next stop Smethwick Rangers for Ellesmere Rangers on Saturday as boss Delwyn Humphreys seeks a return to winning ways.

Having pulled clear of the relegation zone on the back of four straight wins, Ellesmere have now lost two on the bounce.

A George Durrall goal was not enough to save Ellesmere from going down 2-1 at home to mid-table

2-1 at home to mid-table side Malvern last weekend.

2021

Football

FC Oswestry get in festive spirit



Fencina So-sharp Olivia is county champ



OSWESTRY Sports Desk 01952 241473

www.oswestrychronicle.com

Llanfair's manager is top for November

LLANFAIR United boss Rhys Stephens has landed the manager of the month award for November in the Spar Mid Wales League divi-sion one.

Spar Mid Wales League division one.

His side are currently challenging in fourth spot, while they have also enjoyed an excellent run in the Walek Cup before leaing to

an excellent run in the Welsh Cup before losing to Aberystwyth Town.

During November, Llanfair won three league games, scoring 18 goals in the process, and also had victories in both the league cup and Welsh Cup, the latter seeing them pull off an upset with a 2-1 win against Cymru Alliance side Guilsfield.

Welshpool's Rob Cookson is player of the month in the division one for his consistent displays.

Stephens, meanwhile,

tent displays.
Stephens, meanwhile,
praised his side after earning a 2-1 home win over
Montgomery to keep up the
pressure on the Spar League
leadors

leaders.

After their high profile 42 defeat against Aberystwyth in the Welsh Cup the
previous week, it was back
to the bread and butter for
United.

Following a goalless first

United.
Following a goalless first half, Geraint Jones and Gethin Jones put the hosts in charge before Monty pulled one back, and almost salvaged a point when hitting the bar late on.

"After the fantastic per-formance against Aber, it was nice to keep the momen-tum going," said Stephens whose side visit Dyffryn Banw on Saturday.

Morda left with time to reflect

MORDA United have MORDA United have a chance to regroup over the festive period as they plot a title assault in the new year in the Mercian Regional League premier division. Without any action last weekend, the Weston Road

men are well placed to mount a challenge in the second half of the season. They lie just three points behind leaders Oakengates

behind leaders Oakengates Athletic who have one game in hand, while their cause was also helped with recent defeats for title chasing rivals Telford Juniors and FC Hodnet. Morda are fourth, one of three teams on 24 points

Morda are tourth, one of three teams on 24 points, but the table is incredibly tight with just three points separating the top six teams. They have no further fix-tures until after the break.

after enjoying a fine campaign that has seen them win nine of their last 10 outings.

Dale Roberts' side showed plenty of resolve last week after trailing to a goal from Andrew Webb in the windy conditions, but a key moment was when keeper Gareth Ashley made a tremendous double save to prevent Crosses

going two up.

Neil Pryce then levelled after being put through by Steve Jones and the visitors went ahead when Ricky Litchfield fired in from edge of box.

Litchfield and Steve Hole both

had goals disallowed, and the visi-tors were dealt a blow when Crosses equalised through Jamie Evans.

However, Waterloo got the win-ner with five minutes to go with an angled shot through top scorer Hole, which was ruled to have crossed the line despite attempts to clear

to say it had crossed line which was very sporting."

BERRIEW, who were edged out 1-0 at Llandrindod Wells last weekend to lose ground on the leaders, bid to bounce back at FOUR CROSSES.

"We certainly deserved a draw but that's how it seems to be going at the moment," said assistant boss Dave Jones.

boss Dave Jones.
"It was a scrappy game due in main to the conditions, gale force winds and it was pouring down for most the game. First half there was nothing in it, they scored a deflected goal but I can't remem-

ber either keeper making a save first half.

ber eitner keeper making a save first half.

"In the second half however we were camped in their half but just couldn't score. Karl Seliaerts hit the bar and Elliott Jones put the rebound wide, Nick Mumby had one cleared off the line in the last minute, Rob Pritchard put a good chance over the bar. It was one of those games where we could have played all week and we wouldn't have scored."

Elsewhere, LLANSANTF-FRAID VILLAGE host struggling Dolgellau while MONTGOMERY entertain joint leaders Carno.

Welshpool get player boost for **Powys trip**

WELSHPOOL's rugby players are on a mission when they head to Powys rivals Llanidloes on Saturday looking to maintain their revival in the Swalec Welsh League division three (north).

The Maesydre side have enjoyed improved fortunes to boost hopes of climbing

to boost hopes of climbing away from basement danger,

away from basement danger, notably their 22-19 victory over promotion chasing Rhos in their last league action a few weeks back.

Although a makeshift side crashed 64-7 at Shotton Steel in the third round of the Swalec Bowl last Saturday, they will hope to bolster their ranks with the return of several regulars for this weekend's action for what is certain to be a tough game against an improving Llani side.

COBRA, who lost 12-5 at rainswept Dolgellau in the North Wales Cup last Saturday, take a break from action before returning to duty at

before returning to duty at home to Bethesda on Saturday, January 4, as they look for a much needed win to

day, anutary 4, as they look for a much needed win to ease their basement worries in the Swalec League division one (north).

Defeated 24-12 at home by promotion chasing Liverpool Collegiate last Saturday – their first defeat at Granville Park this season OSWESTRY are without any action in the South Lancs and Cheshire Two before returning to duty on Saturday, January 4.

However, a special game against a Nomads team consisting of players at university and former players will take place on Saturday, December 28.

Guils score two awards

AFTER seeing his side win four games in a row, Guils-field chief Matt Burton landed the manager of the month award for November in the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance

Alliance.
And it was a double for the club with striker Danny Barton, whose 17 goals have helped the team up to fifth in the table, taking the player of the month award.

Football – see page 39



NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING Recycled paper made up 78.9% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 2011.

Published by the Oswestry & Bor-der Chronicle, Oswestry, and printed by Shropshire Newspapers Ltd, Telford. Registered at the PO as a newspaper. Price when sold 50p.

Rovers face tough Wellmen test after hitting top

NEW leaders Waterloo Rovers look to become the first side to take points off Llandrindod Wells in Saturday's crunch top of the table showdown at Maesydre in the Spar Mid Wales League division one.

The Welshpool men moved top on goal difference after last week's windswept 3-2 win at Four Crosses, but the Wellmen are lurking menacingly in third spot after

Crosses, but the wellmen are dirk-ing menacingly in third spot after winning all 12 games this season. They trail Rovers by just one point, and have played six games fewer to emerge clear title favourites, but the hosts can go into the clash in confident mood

double save to prevent Crosses

to clear.

to clear.
"I was delighted with players' reaction as our heads didn't go down after they equalised, and we piled on the pressure," said boss Roberts. "Their right-back did clear the shot, but in all fairness to the Crosses linesman who flagged

TS HOMIN ON PREMIER TI

by John Bridgwater

FLYING high at the top of the Welsh Premier, The New Saints chase a ninth successive win at home when Bala Town are the visitors to Park Hall

on Friday night (7.45).
Victory would take the Saints five points clear in the title chase, and their success this season is no small measure down to their form at home where they have

measure down to their form at home where they have won all eight outings without conceding a goal.

The artificial surface certainly suits the defending champions' style of football, but director of football Craig Harrison also puts his side's success down to hard work.

And he knows his players cannot allow their guard to drop against Bala who have proved stern opposition in the past with two draws in their five visits, while suffering three defeats by slender one goal margins.

"We are server strong at home and the reason we are doing."

three defeats by slender one goal margins.

"We are very strong at home and the reason we are doing so well is down to our hard work," said Harrison whose side are averaging four goals a game at Park Hall.

"We work very hard every day in training and the players are responding to everything I want.

"We are as fit as we have ever been, we are a tight group with players that want to work hard for each other and we have a really good squad that is full of ability."

Clean sheets

Midfielder Aeron Edwards and defender Phil Baker are both back in the frame after being rested last week, while Ryan Fraughan, Greg Draper and Jamie Mullan are pressing for starts.

Despite languishing in the lower reaches of the table, Bala's fortunes have picked up of late with some vital wins, including last week's 7-0 thrashing of fellow strugglers GAP

Connah's Quay. The Saints go into this week's clash in good heart after

hammering Aberystwyth Town 4-0 last Friday, with goals from Mike Wilde, Matty Williams, Alex Darlington and sub

from Mike Wilde, Matty Williams, Alex Darlington and sub Greg Draper.

"It was pleasing to see all four of our forwards get on the scoresheet," added head coach Carl Darlington.

"We knew it would be tough as Aber are pushing for a top six place. They looked to make it difficult for us, but we did well.

"It was not a great performance, we could have gone up another gear, but it was pleasing to score four goals and keep another clean sheet."

The Saints' hopes of tightening their grip at the top of the Welsh Premier were frustrated on Tuesday night as

the Welsh Premier were frustrated on Tuesday night as their clash at Carmarthen Town was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch

Festive fun for Llanymynech lady golfers



Getting in the festive spirit at Llanymynech Golf Club are (from left): Anne Colquhoun, Margaret Green, Erica Moss and Carol Johnson, with event organiser Ros Phillips. Picture: Tony Adams.

THERE were some costumed capers going on at a golf course on the Shropshire/Welsh border when dozens of lady golfers took part in an annual fun competition.

fun competition.
Seventy lady golfers from around Shropshire turned up in fancy dress to take part in a ladies Christmas open fun competition, hosted each year at Llanymynech Golf Club.
Event organiser Ros Phillips said:
"This really is a fun tournament where we only cover 13 holes on the course,

including playing the 18th – off the men's tee, which is something of a challenge for many competitors, but always played with great enthusiasm. "We are especially delighted to welcome so many ladies from several different clubs from around the region including Oswestry, Arscott, Mile End and Shrewsbury, and it is wonderful to see the effort they have made with their outflist to help bring a little festive cheer to the annual event." neer to the annual event."

David Thomas, a past secretary at

Llanymynech Golf Club, said the event

was always full of fun every year. He said: "It is something that was started by the members of our ladies

started by the members of our ladies section some years ago and it has always proved popular.
"We are always delighted to host the event because it is always fun and it is great to see our own ladies as well as lady golfers from around the county taking part and enjoying themselves.
"They all looked great and many were looking very festive."

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